FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

East Europe

FBIS-EEU-90-212
Thursday
1 November 1990

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Ministry Denies Release of Nationals in Iraq

AU3110172090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Here is an important piece of news we have just received:

In connection with the announcements which have appeared in the media claiming that the Iraqi parliament has granted permission for Bulgarian citizens to leave the country, the Foreign Ministry has issued the following announcement:

A check made by the Bulgarian Embassy in Iraq has failed to confirm the report disseminated by REUTER concerning the decision made by the Iraqi National Assembly on changing the conditions for our citizens.

On 31 October, the Bulgarian ambassador in Iraq, Mr. Asen Zlatanov, held a meeting with the chairman of the Iraqi parliament, Mr. Sa'di Mahdi Salih, in order to clarify this matter, and expressed the Bulgarian Embassy's willingness to provide the necessary assistance in speeding up the reaching of the appropriate decisions relating to carrying out the commitment assumed by the Iraqi side.

Mr. Salih pointed out that, at the moment, this question is not included on the agenda of the session of the National Assembly scheduled for this Saturday [3 November]. He also expressed a hypothesis that the question of the Bulgarian citizens would not be resolved in the form adopted for the French citizens. Mr. Salih stated that the Iraqi leadership attaches great importance to the completion of the projects for which the Bulgarian side has assumed responsibility. The chairman promised to personally check into the development of the issue of the decision concerning the conditions for the Bulgarian citizens.

During the meeting it was agreed that the lists of names of all Bulgarian citizens wishing to leave Iraq which had already been handed over should also be submitted directly to the National Assembly.

In addition, the Bulgarian Embassy announces that as a result of recent talks, the Indian Embassy has also expressed willingness to provide about 150 tonnes of food for the needs of the Bulgarian citizens in Iraq.

Kuwait Public Committee Plans To Visit Region

AU3110214290 Sofia BTA in English 1905 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 31 Oct (BTA)—A group of members of the Bulgarian "Kuwait" Public Committee will probably visit the Persian Gulf region before the end of the year to gather and present to the Bulgarian and the world public evidence of the crimes committed in the territory of Kuwait. This initiative launched by the committee today was approved by the Ambassador of Kuwait to Sofia, Mr. Talib Jalal An-Naqib. Mr. An-Naqib hailed the idea to organize in Bulgaria an international conference on the criminal Iraqi aggression of Kuwait.

Diplomat in Zimbabwe Assaulted, Beaten in Harare

AU3110214790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] The Bulgarian Embassy in Harare has submitted a diplomatic note to the government of Zimbabwe in connection with the assault against a Bulgarian diplomat committed by five unidentified individuals. This was reported by the Associated Press from Harare citing to the Bulgarian Embassy as a source.

According to the Bulgarian spokesman, five individuals in uniform reportedly stopped the automobile of the Bulgarian diplomatic courier who was on his way to the airport carrying the embassy's diplomatic pouch on its way to Sofia.

The individuals in question reportedly forced the diplomat to stop by showing him police documents, and then tried to push him out of his car. When he tried to resist, he was assaulted and severely beaten. Two passing motorists came to his rescue, succeeded in dispersing the attackers, and detained one of them whom they handed over to the local police. The injured Bulgarian diplomat has already been released from the hospital, the spokesman of our embassy in Harare added.

Foreign Minister on Results of Tirana Meeting

AU0111111290 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 27 Oct 90 p 1

[Report by Minko Minkov, "Bulgarian radio reporter in Tirana," on statement from Foreign Minister Lyuben Gotsev on results of Tirana meeting of the foreign ministers of the Balkan countries: "Sofia Will Host the Next Balkan Meeting"]

[Text] Striving toward achieving specific results in multilateral cooperation in the Balkans, realism, and a constructive spirit—this determined the character of the Tirana meeting of the Balkan countries' foreign affairs ministers. After the prolonged coordination of opinions, which was not devoid of differences, a final document was adopted. It reflects the general understanding that regional cooperation is a part of the positive all-European processes.

During the meeting some problems which are specific for our region, emerged. One of them was the minorities issue. I hasten to say that this time Bulgaria was not at the center of this issue. (Differences in the positions of Greece and Yugoslavia emerged). The ministers agreed that people who belong to national minorities have the right to freely express their ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious belonging, within the framework of the constitutional order that exists in their countries, and which guarantees equal status to all.

After the end of the meeting, Lyuben Gotsev, Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs, summarized the results,especially for Bulgarian Radio and OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK.

"The Bulgarian delegation is satisfied with the results. Two documents were adopted—the final communique and the address to the forthcoming Paris CSCE meeting. The Bulgarian delegation did everything possible to bring about more cooperation, ideas, and understanding, and I have reasons to speak about specific achievements. The next meeting will take place in Sofia in the fall of 1991. We wanted to establish a permanent secretariat, seated in Sofia, but the time for this issue apparently is not yet ripe. The countries decided to think about it."

To our question on what prevented the adoption of the Bulgarian idea on a meeting of the ministers of defense and the prospects for such a meeting, Minister Gotsev answered:

"I am convinced that this meeting will take place perhaps next year, because there have already been bilateral meetings of the commanders of the General Staffs and ministers of national defense. At least we had such contacts with Greece, Turkey, and Yugoslavia. Perhaps our unexpected proposal surprised the participants, thus some of them did not want to commit their countries.

"My personal impression is that here in Tirana the countries were much more free in their discussion and in presenting their opinions. Until now they were led by the thought of what the greater organization in which they are members—the Warsaw Pact and NATO—would say."

General Staff Head on Possible Balkan Meeting

AU3010182290 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 24 Oct 90 pp 1,4

[Interview with Colonel General Radnyu Minchev, first deputy minister of national defense and commander of the General Staff of the Bulgarian People's Army, by Senior Lieutenant Krasimir Uzunov; place and date not given: "Soldiers Understand Each Other Without Speaking"; first paragraph is NARODNA ARMIYA introduction]

[Excerpts] Until recently the idea of holding a meeting of the commanders of the General Staffs of the Balkan countries' Armies seemed heretical and improbable. Now we discuss the possibility of such a meeting with Colonel General Radnyu Minchev, first deputy minister of national defense and commander of the General staff of the Bulgarian People's Army.

[Uzunov] Comrade Col. General, how do you view the idea of a future meeting of the commanders of the general staffs of the Balkan countries?

[Minchev] I view positively the possibility of such a meeting. If the ministers and deputy ministers of foreign affairs meet, what can be wrong in with the meeting of the commanders of the general staffs of the Balkan countries' armies, or the ministers of defense? Our countries will clearly benefit from such a meeting, which will contribute to strengthening peace in the Balkans and Europe. The past meetings we had with the commanders of the general staffs of Greece and Yugoslavia proved that mutual contacts are very valuable. They contribute to strengthening friendly relations and cooperation and guarantee peace relations among the countries. Naturally, such an idea must be coordinated at the appropriate level with the commanders of the general staffs or the ministers of defense, and implemented after obtaining the agreement of the countries. I think that if the other commanders of the general staffs do not object, we could host such a meeting. [passage omitted]

[Uzunov] Were your preliminary expectations of the meetings with the commanders of the general staffs of Greece and Yugoslavia justified?

[Minchev] I knew those people from their written biographies, however, it is much different when two people face each other and begin to talk on important military issues of mutual interest. Thus one could assess their way of thinking and their attitude to the issues that are discussed.

[Uzunov] Was it by accident that during the most intensive anti-Bulgarian campaign in Turkey the Turkish high military circles remained silent and did not take part in any anti-Bulgarian initiative?

[Minchev] This really was so. We did not read or hear any militant statement on the part of Turkish military commanders on active duty. This testifies to their profound thinking and dissociation from what I see as ad hoc activities. This is to the credit of neighboring Turkey's military leadership, and especially the Turkish General Staff and its commander, Colonel General Torumtay.

[Uzunov] What is the first thing you would say to your guests if a meeting of commanders of the general staffs of the Balkan countries' armies takes place in Sofia?

[Minchev] I would first welcome them on Bulgarian soil. Then I would say: "The very fact that you come to Bulgaria testifies to your sincere willingness to improve relations among the Balkan countries and turn this region from the bone of contention and a powder keg into a region of peace, good-neighborly relations, and friendship, which will guarantee the future fruitful development of our countries."

Turkish Bank Grants $100 Million in Credits

AU3110184690 Sofia BTA in English 1720 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 31 Oct (BTA)—In fulfilment of the agreements Mr. Turgut Ozal, president of Turkey, and Mr. Andrey Lukanov, prime minister of Bulgaria, reached in

Antalya in September 1990 a delegation of the Turk Eksimbank for export credit lines is paying a visit to Sofia.

The talks the delegation had with the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank ended by reaching an agreement under which the Turkish side will grant Bulgaria a commodity and investment credit line amounting to 100 million U.S. dollars and an agreement on technological and economic cooperation.

The delegation was received by Premier Andrey Lukanov.

National Assembly's 31 Oct Session Reviewed

AU3110214490 Sofia BTA in English 2012 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 31 Oct (BTA)—A way out of the situation that has been dragging on for one month now is expected in parliament today.

Mr. Lukanov's program and his government have been much criticized during the debates. Today the opposition leveled lashing criticism at them again and, although euphemistically, insisted on Mr. Lukanov's resignation.

The Socialist M.P.'s voted against the motion to discontinue the debates on the program submitted by Premier Andrey Lukanov on October 9. Their parliamentary majority decided the outcome of the vote.

"Lukanov wants to gain time," an opposition M.P. said in the lobbies. "Things are dragging on for too long something that can happen only in Bulgaria," he considers. Other opposition M.P.'s also holds the opinion that Bulgaria needs a parliament made up of professionals.

At the same time, as some unofficial sources stated, in the 15-minute break which actually lasted for half an hour, Mr. Lukanov began to gather his team.

Many of the advisers in the Presidency attended the second part of the parliamentary sitting.

Yesterday's rumor that Mr. Lukanov would resign is circulated in the lobbies and among the public even more vigorously.

In the speeches they made today, the opposition M.P's repeated several times that they were ready to form a government. Mr. Kostov proposed to hold a nationwide referendum on the reform if an opposition government is formed.

There is some talk in the lobbies that Mr. Georgi Pirinski, now deputy prime minister in Mr. Lukanov's cabinet, maybe nominated premier.

"Now it is our last chance," he said at the beginning of the evening sitting. "Tomorrow all the problems will fall down heavily on our heads." In his speech Mr. Pirinski declared himself to be for the adoption of a package of legislative measures which would guarantee a stable start for the reform in the spirit of the program. The opposition has expressed similar opinion before.

Small groups of citizens are gathering in front of the building of the Grand National Assembly supporters of Mr. Lukanov and followers of the opposition.

One of the leaders of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, Mr. Aleksandur Tomov, accused the Union of Democratic Forces of blackmailing the government and deliberately postponing the adoption of a decision on the government program.

Three-fourths of the M.P.'s in the present parliament have no chances of being returned if new elections were held, Mr. Tomov said, quoting the results of a public opinion poll and underlined that in the present situation a progress could be made in Bulgaria only if the political forces reach a consensus.

Dr. Petur Beron, leader of the opposition, pointed out that having in mind the present rating of the Socialist Party, the public will not accept the program presented by Premier Lukanov. This is a program of an arbitrary rule, only Lukanov is behind it, while the Socialist Party leaves an open door for itself to give it up at any moment, an M.P. of the Union of Democratic Forces said.

Opposition MP's Attack Lukanov Program Again

AU3110184490 Sofia BTA in English 1740 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 31 Oct (BTA)—If the political conditions make it possible and necessary, the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) [SDS] will form a government together with the other opposition forces, presenting a clear programme with concretely specified time limits, one of the opposition leaders, Mr. Dimitur Ludzhev, stated in parliament today.

He blamed Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov and his government for their inactiveness. "Half of the government programme could have been already carried out," he said.

Both Mr. Ludzhev and other opposition MP's stressed the position of the UDF, namely: They do not believe that the one-party Socialist government will be able to implement the reform.

Today the opposition showed once more its main trump card—it is impossible to carry out the economic reforms without political changes. "Only the complete separation of the Bulgarian Socialist Party from the state can guarantee Bulgaria's transition to market economy," Mr. Ludzhev underlined. In his opinion the country's most serious problem cannot be solved by the International Monetary Fund but in the assembly hall of the Bulgarian parliament.

Mr. Ludzhev announced the proposal of the UDF according to which the parliamentary forces should sign a protocol on the separation of economic and political power.

Mr. Ivan Kostov, an opposition MP and chairman of the Parliamentary Economic Committee, suggested to hold a nation-wide referendum on the reform "in case the UDF will have to carry out the Lukanov programme." He declared himself to be for the state's giving up its control over the economy. "The Socialists cannot rule any more," Mr. Kostov emphasized.

Government To Issue High-Interest Bond Loan

AU3110184290 Sofia BTA in English 1636 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 31 Oct (BTA)—According to Mr. Evgeni Uzunov, deputy minister of finance, the government will try to decrease the quantity of "hot money" and ease down the pressure of inflation which is galloping at about 25 percent now through a bonded loan of one milliard leva.

The loan, which secures a sensationally high interest rate of 15 percent, is one of the measures by which the government hopes to combat the budget deficit of one milliard two hundred million leva.

It is also an indirect manoeuvre aimed at exerting pressure on the commercial banks, which will probably have to raise the present flagrantly low savings interest of one percent.

Mr. Uzunov admitted that the sale of anonymous "payable to bearer" bonds without any "ceiling" is rather a palliative than a radical measure for curbing inflation. In his opinion inflation could be brought under certain control only in the second half of next year, for which it is relied mainly on the implementation of the Lukanov programme which envisages liberalization of prices combined with the adoption of measures for stabilizing the national currency, accelerated privatization, new taxation policy and so on.

Foreign juridical or physical persons will also be able to buy bonds, but they would hardly rush doing it, Mr. Uzunov said. He characterized the inconvertible Bulgarian national currency by saying that it is "unattractive due to causes everybody knows."

People's Party Leader Brankov Outlines Plans

AU3010153690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 25 Oct 90 p 5

[Interview with Dimitur Brankov, chairman of the People's Party, by Mila Manova; place and date not given: "A Place For an Equalizer Is Still Vacant"; first paragraph is DUMA introduction]

[Excerpts] The Bulgarian People's Party [Narodna Partiya] was founded on 3 February 1990 in Sofia. It describes itself as an heir to the People's Bloc, and to a certain degree—to the Populist [Narodnyashka] Party. Its program declaration points out that the party struggles for the total guarantee of the right to work, as well as satisfying all needs that spring from this right, removing the class privileges, relinquishing all forms of dictatorship, and asserting a humane approach in every sphere. Dimitur Brankov was elected chairman of the party. He is a sculptor, married, and has three children.

[Manova] Mr. Brankov, could you outline your party's basic principles and its place in Bulgaria's political life?

[Brankov] For many years the word people was devoid of any content. Our goal is to revive its essence by bringing the people back to our social, economic, and political lives. Such parties exist in many countries. They are centrist parties, perhaps a bit to the right of the political center. I think that our logo represents best our goal: Man should be freed from fear, troubles, insecurity, prejudice, and violence. [passage omitted]

[Manova] On what organizational principle is the People's Party constructed?

[Brankov] Our structure is first the structure of the former okrugs, where we establish our organizations on the basis of residence. The party's political strategy is determined by the National Coordination Council; however, according to the charter, all local organizations can oppose its decisions. Our organization in Ruse, together with parties which have left the Union of Democratic forces [SDS], has formed an opposition bloc, and we do not oppose this decision. [passage omitted]

[Manova] How do you see your future and the future of the parties in our country? Could you venture a forecast?

[Brankov] I think that in a few years the Bulgarian political map will consist of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], the Bulgarian People's Party, the Social Democratic Party, and the Agrarian Party. In addition there will be a powerful Christian Party, a Republican Party, and a Monarchist Party.

[Manova] Is cooperation between the People's Party and the BSP possible?

[Brankov] Dialogue—yes, cooperation—no. Some people call the ruling party a communist party. I disagree. It is changing and this is undeniable. I presume that it is possible to conduct joint actions with it in a certain direction, but no more than this. Thus, we agree with the position that all efficient elements of our country's potential must be utilized.

National Radical Leader on Party Goals, History

AU3110200090 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 26 Oct 90 p 4

[Interview with Dr. Ivan Georgiev, chairman of the Bulgarian National Radical Party, by Zoya Nestorova; place and date not given: "I Have Always Been In Opposition."]

[Excerpts] [Nestorova] Please introduce yourself and your party.

[Georgiev] The party was founded on 1 September 1955. The goal was to send young men with high school education to the higher military schools. Later, as officers, they were expected to organize a coup and eliminate the communist government. I was then in the ninth grade in school and leader of the party in Sofia. In 1957 we were discovered. I was arrested and imprisoned in Sofia Prison's Investigation Department. I was sentenced to five years. I was released in 1960 and completed my education as a private pupil. After the general amnesty, my parents (my father is Academician Emil Georgiev) succeeded in arranging for me to apply to the Medical Academy, and I was accepted. In 1962 we again started to construct the party. On 1 September 1983, when I already was an assistant at the Medical Academy, I was arrested, however, I was not sentenced, because a family relative—Venko Markovski—saved me. According to the protocol I signed before I was released, I have committed crimes of general character. Only after 10 November were we allowed to function in a semi-legal manner.

[Nestorova] In a semi-legal manner....?

[Georgiev] Yes. We have indeed officially registered, but the authorities are trying to hinder our activity. We have no access to the mass media—the radio and television. Before the elections the Union of Democratic Forces and the Bulgarian Socialist Party divided between themselves all the television and radio time, received buildings and newsprint, and DEMOKRATSIYA reached a circulation of 300,000 issues. Since they all know that we are a real opposition which struggles for the elimination of the totalitarian structures, we are kept in information blackout. Like the apostles we walk from one place to another in the country and create committees. Only in 10 settlements have we no committees.

[Nestorova] How many members do you have?

[Georgiev] We are still a small party—about 35,000 members—but we have many supporters and people who think like us, and they are the source of our power. Our rallies in Sofia pale in comparison with our rallies in cities such as Ruse, Kurdzhali, and Turgovishte. [passage omitted]

[Nestorova] An opinion exists that you are very radical on the ethnic issue in our country.

[Georgiev] It appears that when we says that Bulgarians live in Vardar Macedonia or the Western suburbs [pokraynini], people point a finger at us and call us "chauvinists," "extremists," and so forth—the entire gamut from communists to fascists.

It is high time to stop making compromises with our national and civic consciousness and firmly declare that we have certain historical rights in the Balkan peninsula, and we are ready to fight for them.

[Nestorova] In such case, how is it possible that Bulgarians and people from the minorities could live together?

[Georgiev] For 1,300 years we enacted Bulgarian laws in this poor land that we have. Whoever does not want to observe them has no place here. For 500 years we lived under the most horrible yoke in the history of mankind—slaughtered as cattle; children and women were burned alive. Slavery could be bearable in accordance with the degree of civilization of the oppressor. Unfortunately, Turkey was not the Austro-Hungarian Empire, France, or England.... [passage omitted]

Communist Party Archives 'Belong to Nation'

AU3110145890 Sofia BTA in English 1419 GMT 31 Oct 90

["Archives of Former Communist Party Belong to Nation, Not to Party"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 31 Oct (BTA)—By October 1, 1990, the regional archives of the former Communist Party [BCP] should have given up their holdings to the state archives along with their respective material and technical basis. This was the decision adopted on August 17, 1990, by the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) and this is the stand of principle taken on this matter by the Central Board of Archives with the Council of Ministers. But as it became known at today's news conference, up to date this has not been done.

In the meantime the head of the BSP Central Archives has given in his resignation, probably in protest against the instruction given by the party leadership to withhold archives.

The existence of the instruction which was read by the deputy chairman of the BSP Supreme Council, Mr. Dimitur Yonchev, was confirmed by the excerpts from the shorthand record of a conference held at the Supreme Council quoted at the Grand National Assembly last Friday by Mr. Boyan Papazov, MP, of the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) [SDS].

According to the now operative Law of the State Archives no institution or organization is allowed to withhold documents without having received the permission of the bodies administering the state archives holdings. But in actual fact these bodies are not in position to control what is being done in the party and departmental archives. This has been the case in the last 42 years, when the state bodies had no possibility of

controlling the Central Archives of the BCP which are kept as secret documents or as documents of extraordinary national importance. This was the normal practice in the years of the totalitarian regime.

From the explanations given by the head of the Central Board of Archives, Prof. Doyno Doynov, it became clear that things have not changed over the year past.

The material basis of the state archives is in poor, in some cases even in disastrous situation, while the archives of the former Communist Party are kept in excellent conditions.

A lot of valuable archives have been destroyed, especially in the first years following September 9, 1944. It is important not to allow it happen again now, Prof. Doynov said.

The Central Party Archives (of the BCP) has illegally seized a huge number of valuable documents archives that cannot belong to one party only, whatever interpretation the term may be given. The adoption of a new law of archives would regulate things in this sphere. But before doing it the archives of the former Communist Party should be returned to the state, it was underlined at the press conference. That is what happened in Czechoslovakia and Poland.

The insufficiency of the now operative law and the different ways of interpreting the terms "secret," "confidential," "prescription" have been hindering the contacts of the state archives with the departmental archives of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of National Defence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the archives of other institutions and organizations.

Defense Ministry Amends Text of Military Oath

AU0111121990 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Oct 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Military Oath—New, or Not?"]

[Text] A working collective from the Ministry of National Defense has amended the text of the military oath. Expressions, such as the socialist motherland, the people's government, and the working people's enemies were eliminated in connection with the depoliticization of the army and its separation from the party on the basis of the amendment to the Law on General Military Service. The new text of Article 10, paragraph 1 was changed to "all members of the military personnel in the Armed Forces in the People's Republic of Bulgaria take a military oath of loyalty to their people and their homeland."

As a result of the aforementioned amendments, the military oath was given a new text approved by the minister of national defense on 21 September 1990.

A completely new text of the military oath will evidently be required following the adoption of a new Constitution and the new Law on the Armed Forces.

Who knows, perhaps we shall soon hear about a public competition announced for the composition a new text of the military oath.

Energy Committee Announces Industrial Power Cuts

AU3110182090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] The Energy Industry Committee announces that, in view of the priority given to satisfying domestic energy demands, it is introducing a system of restricting electric power consumption by industry.

A minimum working power capacity is determined for every enterprise, at which it should operate when power rationing is announced.

Enterprises are divided into six groups, in order that they may take turns when such rationing is applied. The rationing system does not yet cover bread production, meat processing, the dairy industry, and animal farming facilities.

Beginning at 0600 on 1 November, and running to 2200 on 9 November, enterprises in groups one, two and three, have to switch over to the defined power capacity. The restrictions are not applied during the period between 2200 and 0600.

Restriction of Bread Sales Announced

AU3110182490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] We have received the following announcement from the Bakery Goods Company:

The managers of the breadbaking plants are changing over to producing 1 kg Stara Zagora loaves, costing 48 stotinki, and Dobrudzha loaves at a price of 36 stotinki.

The return to the old practice is necessary because of the unusual rise in bread consumption in Sofia, the fact that oven capacity is being fully utilized, transportation costs, the fall in production, as well as in order to economize on fuel consumption.

In practice, bread production will increase by 60 tonnes a day.

The company's management has decided to limit bread sales in its specialized stores. Each day two loaves of the main kinds will be sold to each customer, and up to four loaves on Fridays, Saturdays, and days preceding public holidays.

Privatization Law Seen as Klaus Victory

AU3110150690 Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 26 Oct 90 p 1

["(FP)"-signed report: "The Small-Scale Privatization Die Has Been Cast"]

[Text] A historically significant law on transferring some properties from state ownership into the ownership of physical or legal persons—that is, the law on small-scale privatization—cleared its highest hurdle at 1325 yesterday during the Federal Assembly session and became a reality.

It cleared this hurdle in a truly imposing fashion when it was approved by an overwhelming majority. A total of 202 of the 239 Federal Assembly deputies present cast their votes in favor of this law. The final obstacles, in the form of suggestions and amendments—which the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committees literally drafted into several versions throughout the night—were surmounted in the three-hour approval procedure without any further collisions in opinion and in surprising harmony.

Not one proposal directed against the principle ideas put forward by the law's proposer, Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus, made it through the round of voting on the amendments. There were no objections to the introduction of preemption rights for employees of privatized businesses or to the possibility of paying 50 percent of the purchase price in the event that a business is auctioned off to its employees. Similarly, the deputies did not approve the proposal put forward by Milos Zeman (Civic Forum) for three quarters of the price to be paid in installments with interest, a proposal which is, understandably, justified by the considerably higher number of contenders for small businesses, by the envisaged higher auction prices, and by the possibilities for covering part of the payments from the increased profit from selling the business. The finance minister himself admitted that a whole series of neglected details are cropping up. However, the most serious thing is that the issue of improperly and illegally acquired wealth was completely ignored by those who approved the law.

The small-scale privatization law is certainly not without its faults and the fact that people implement laws will also apply to it. The first man in the Finance Ministry, whose law has been given the deputies' trust, should realize this fact and should prepare monetary measures which would exclude improperly acquired financial resources from the game before they effect the future economic system and the nation's morality. The law on small-scale privatization will come into force on 1 December 1990.

Federal Assembly Resumes Deliberations

LD3010235490 Prague CTK in English 2131 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 30 (CTK)—The 7th joint session of the two houses of Czechoslovak parliament today resumed its deliberations which were adjourned on October 25.

The deputies approved a resolution enjoining the Czechoslovak Government to transfer the archives of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia to the state archives and to the archives of local bodies of state administration.

Approval of an amendment to the parliament's order of procedure gives the parliamentary commission on the November 1989 events, which resulted in the fall of the former communist regime, the status of a commission of investigations while before it only supervised the investigations of the events.

Deputy Jiri Ruml (Civic Forum) pointed in this connection to the recent article in a Prague tabloid entitled "Sensational Exposure of the Background of November 17" which has been described as "fascist." Jiri Ruml said that the commission must be given the opportunity to summon the article's author and ask him to prove his assertions.

The amendment to the law on restitution (of private property nationalized under the former communist regime), which was passed by parliament earlier this month, exempts from restitution the buildings housing foreign diplomatic offices, meaning that the property cannot be returned to its original owners in natura. [as received]

Deputy to the House of Nations Peter Kulan (Public Against Violence) asked on behalf of deputies elected in Slovakia that Deputy Vitazoslav Moric, chairman of the Slovak National Party (SNS) be immediately recalled from the parliament presidium. Vitazoslav Moric took part in the pressure actions when the Slovak National Council (republic parliament) discussed a bill on the state and official language in Slovakia, with the aim of barring ethnic minorities from using their mother tongues in official contacts. The question will be discussed by the Presidium of the House of Nations tomorrow.

In conclusion of the 7th session, the deputies approved a statement in support of the Slavkov declaration adopted by the Czechoslovak president and the Czechoslovak, Czech and Slovak premiers on October 28 on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the Czechoslovak state. They support justified demands for more effective sharing of powers between the federation and the national republics, and denounce manifestations of intolerance and radicalism.

Elections To Give Municipalities Extensive Powers

LD3110115590 Prague CTK in English 1021 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Prague Oct 31 (CTK)—In the coming local elections (in the Czech Republic on November 24, and in Slovakia on November 23-24) Czechs and Slovaks will elect deputies to new bodies of local administration—to local and town councils. Under the laws on new bodies of local administration, passed by the Czech and Slovak parliaments at the beginning of September, the present bodies—the national committees—will cease to exist on election day.

The two laws give the municipalities extensive powers, e.g. decisions on economic affairs, budgets, territorial changes, setting up bodies necessary for keeping public order, and issuing decrees valid in towns and villages. A local or town council will be elected from among the members of the municipality. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Lifts Ban on Officer Group

LD3010210190 Prague CTK in English 1840 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 30 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Defence Minister Lubos Dobrovsky today cancelled his twelve-day-old order suspending the activity of a group of officers calling themselves "The Free Legion" in the Czechoslovak Army and temporarily transferring its members to the reserves.

In his first order on the day of his appointment October 18 the minister, the first civilian in the post since before the second World War, stopped the free Legion's activities until after their investigation by the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Democracy. The office now said in a report that this activity did not breach the law. The officers are being reinstated to their posts.

The Free Legion is formed by officers who say they are active outside the Army framework. The minister said in his order that the demands voiced by the group at its congress make him insist on a revision of its registration as an organization.

Former Defence Minister Vacek said that the group attempted to paralyze the Army.

Pithart Interviewed on Government Power Sharing

LD3110022590 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1803 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Interview with Czech Premier Petr Pithart, by unidentified reporter in Luhacovice on 30 October—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] As it is Tuesday, we are in Luhacovice visiting Czech Premier Petr Pithart. He will speak today on power sharing between governments in the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic.

Mr. Premier, to give new content to the federative arrangement of our state is not only the wish of President Vaclav Havel, but the meeting in Slavkov has confirmed that this is also the joint effort of our governments and representatives of the main coalition forces. So far, questions on the taxation system, republican and federal ownership, and railways still remain to be resolved.

[Pithart] I would like to illustrate what the term, to give new content to the federative arrangement, means. Let us imagine a child's jigsaw puzzle—the division of powers within the federation—which has been put together somehow in 1968. In 1970 in the period of beginning normalization it was scattered around completely and we are putting it together again. Naturally, not in the same way as it was in 1968 because several things have been changed, but we are putting together something which has already existed here, thus we are not creating something completely new. I would like to say that this is not a tug-of-war for power.

Recently, we heard—I think it came from the Greens at some congress of theirs—do stop arguing about powers, do stop arguing about the federation and get on with economic reform! This is not possible. The issue is not powers as such. Responsibilities are the issues, above all. And for the responsibilities that we have, we have to find relevant powers. Let me give you an example: In the Czech Republic we say priority should be given to Northwest Bohemia and the Ostrava region, that those are the rose affected areas in our country. These will remain empty words if it is not possible for us to influence the concept of the power generating industry: above all, for example, the price of energy, the price of coal, because we have responsiblity for the environment in those areas, for the health of people, but at the same time we have no chance of influencing the amount of generated energy nor the conditions in which it is being produced.

Thus, we are not wrangling over powers. We want to be able to fulfill the responsibility that we have. You have mentioned, I think, three spheres where disputes persist. I would also add to them radio, television, and to a certain extent, the environment as well as the banking system. I think listeners may be interested in how the three partners stand in those disputes. We stood with the Federal Government four times against the visions of the Slovak Government and twice we, the Czech Government, stood together with the Slovak Government against visions of the Federal Government. From this it emerges that we are neither clear-cut federalists nor clear-cut republicans, so to speak, that we are indeed looking in a businesslike manner for the best solutions.

[Reporter] Mr. Premier, you said in your statement to the press that you will not talk about the controversial

questions if you do not solve them by the end of next week. Maybe you will not talk about them in public for the next half year. Does the ratio of 4:2 also belong here?

[Pithart] Well, what you said is very important. We have agreed that we will not talk about it, not only in public, but not at all. Simply, we will not be concerned about it. We will agree on a date and set a moratorium and until then we will simply not be burdened by it. We will return to it mayabe in half a year's time or three-quarters of a year's time. Otherwise, we would simply not be able to move. And if we agreed on this we agreed on the most important thing.

[Reporter] Mr. Premier, how do you personally see the limits of the policy of the Czech Government vis a vis certain Slovak initiatives?

[Pithart] Sometimes we have to remind our Slovak colleagues that three sides are involved here and not two sides. The Slovak colleagues sometimes tend to agree with us and to present the Federal Government with a fait accompli. We think this is not possible, that there truly are three partners and not only two with a third one who will only go along.

[Reporter] In Monday's LIDOVE NOVINY, in his article, Slovakia in Bohemia, Jiri Hanak wrote in connection with the language bill in the Slovak National Council: I miss a clearly articulated standpoint by Czech political leaders. End of quote. How is it then that the Czech Government is coming with its own initiatives?

[Pithart] Clearly articulated standpoint by Czech leaders. One would have to think for a while about what Mr. Hanak had in mind. He could have in mind unequivocal standpoints, or he could have in mind standpoints expressed aloud. We presented unequivocal standpoints to our Slovak colleageus at the highest possible level during the talks of the leadership of Civic Forum [OF] and Public Against Violence [VPN]. What is involved is the form, that is, how the standpoints should be communicated. This can be done from a platform of some big meeting or as a public statement. The standpoints can be formulated during official negotiations, but also during unofficial talks or one-to-one talks. In politics, and not only in politics, it often happens that even silence represents a clear-cut viewpoint, and often it is louder than anything else. So, we have expressed a clear-cut standpoint, but I would like to say that for coalition partners in the Slovak Government this was not necessary. I am convinced—and Mr. Meciar demonstrated it in the television debate with the representative of Matica Slovenska, Mr. Markus—that he is well aware of the seriousness of the problem, that is the language bill, and that he did not need our instructions for it. I think the television debate probably persuaded the majority of Czech viewers about it.

Since Mr. Hanak is posing the question, I would like to pose a counter-question: Why do they want us to select the same method as the political leaders in Slovakia? We are solving different problems. The political situation in Bohemia is different and we have no need to measure up to the standpoints of Slovak politicians as to impact and loudness. As to our own initiatives, I would like to revert to history a bit and say that we were the first ones who feld the need for intensive contacts between the Czech and Slovak political representation. It was us, in the Czech Republic, who provided the first incentives for meetings. Our priority is also self-administration to which land administration belongs. I think we will manage to build self-administration in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia faster and more efficiently than in Slovakia. Not only because we want it, but above all because we may have better prerequisites for it. I have in mind traditions of self-administration. And last but not least, I think an attentive observer cannot fail to notice that we prefer a fast transition toward a market economy, not only by taking part, just as the Slovak political representation, in the preparation of the appropriate laws, but also by expending a lot of energy to adjust the structure of the government to this. This means we are abolishing departmental ministries, we are doing away with the entire vast bureaucratic apparatus which will be expendable and which hinders us in many respects even today.

[Reporter] Mr. Premier, thank you for the interview.

Barta's Chairmanship of Movement Suspended

AU3110113590 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 25 Oct 90 p 1

[Zdenek John report: "A Barta Case?"]

[Text] Shortly after noon [on Wednesday, 24 October] some representatives of the Movement for Self-Governing Democracy called a news conference to explain some current issues pertaining to this Moravian-Silesian movement. This intention completely backfired, however. At times the news conference degenerated into the "washing of dirty linen," as they self-critically admitted in the end. The "Barta versus the rest of the movement" conflict has resulted in Boleslav Barta being recalled from the post of chairman of the land council. Allegedly, the reason is not the recently published information on Deputy Barta's possible collaboration with the StB [secret police] but the mistakes which Boleslav Barta made in his capacity as council chairman. This was announced by Czech Government representative Bohumil Tichy and a representative of the Movement for Self-Governing Democracy. The intricate story, which the participants in yesterday's news conference managed to entangle even more, will have a sequel. The next episode is scheduled for 10 November when the Moravians and Silesians (i.e., of course, those entitled to do so) will decide on Boleslav Barta's further fate in his suspended position as the movement's chairman.

Civic Forum Council Announces Split 31 Oct

LD3110192190 Prague CTK in English 1616 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 31 (CTK)—The Civic Forum [OF] Council today declared that two left-wing groups were no longer considered members of the movement and hours later several dozen centre-left OF deputies announced they were forming a group in parliament.

"Our ideas are really in conflict with the present state in the OF but not with its original state," said the spokesman for the Left Alternative, which the council had earlier described as having abandoned the political line of the movement.

Milos hajek, chairman of Obroda, associating people who were expelled from the Communist Party in 1968, said they regard themselves as a social democratic movement and want to cooperate with OF. "If, however, OF changes into a right-wing party we, as OF co-founders, deny it the right to be called OF."

The new group which has announced its formation in parliament, calling itself the Interparliamentary Civic Association, said it did not want "the OF to leave the principles from which it grew."

"We seek such an organizational set-up of the OF which will lead to its greater political effectiveness. We most resolutely reject an artificial ideological division of the OF into right and left, among others because both these lines can lead in their extremes to a totalitarianization of society."

Signatories of the statement include Rudolf Battek, Zdenek Jicinsky, Valtr Komarek, Ladislav Lis, Venek Silhan, Petr Uhl and Milos Zeman.

The OF was founded as a movement representing a broad spectrum of public opinion during the first protests against the communist regime last November. It won a landslide victory in June's parliamentary elections but has since been losing popularity because of a lackluster image after most of its leaders have left its bodies to become top state and government officials. Polarization has apparently begun in its ranks.

The present moves follow the OF congress last October 13 which elected Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus, a co-author of the radical economic reform, chairman of the movement. He said later that the development of the movement "undoubtedly means a shift to the right" and that "OF will have to part ways with a group of permanent grumblers" describing them as exponents "destabilizing any society." He rejected the former concept of OF as an "umbrella body covering an endless quantity of different views."

Klaus gave full support to the political line of federal and Czech parliament deputies calling themselves the Interparliamentary Group of the Democratic Right Wing, which had declared its founding earlier this month.

The Interparliamentary Civic Association, which announced its formation today, said that it would work for a market economy that would respect the experiences of developed states, and emphasize at the same time a social, ecological, educational and cultural policy. They want to push through a "just federal order of the state as one of the guarantees that our return to Europe will be successful," want to seek Czechoslovakia's involvement in European integration and contribute to the creation of an all-European security system.

The OF has already proposed its candidates for local elections which will be held in the Czech Republic November 24, forming local coalitions with other parties in the constituencies.

Division Termed 'Unfortunate'

LD2910221390 Prague CTK in English 1624 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 29 (CTK)—"I am concerned if it is not the beginning of the end of the Civic Forum [OF]," Petr Uhl, Federal Assembly (parliament) deputy for this most influential Czech political force has told CTK reporter Roman Gallo in an interview.

Mr. Uhl, director general of CTK, commented on the latest OF congress on October 13 which elected Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus chairman of the movement. "It is not so much the election of Vaclav Klaus that matters but rather the atmosphere of the congress which was horrible. People, who at first elected Vaclav Klaus as chairman and only then agreed on his powers, people who had already taken the floor in the debate and then 'democratically' voted to end the discussion although the minority which had not spoken was still asking for the floor, such people give me a scare, such scare that I had 'persecution dreams' for the first time since November," said Petr Uhl.

He regretted that the OF board had been abolished as a platform where people exchanged and adapted their views so that they could make better decisions in their state posts. "The board has remained a narrow body with compulsory attendence and the possibility to decide maters," Mr. Uhl said.

He described OF division into right and left as "unfortunate because it pushes economic reform rid of all social and ecological aspects" while the OF election program contains the commitment to pay regard to the social and ecological aspects.

"In my opinion, dividing the OF into right and left actually courts right-wing sentiments in society. Today it is courting those who call for a quick and harsh recapitalisation of the economy and for the assertion of the principle of collective guilt of all former Communist Party members. Tomorrow it can be a position still further to the right—restrictions of the trade unions and the authority of local government, disparaging of the democratic legal order and discrimination of people for

their political stands, or even attempts to have a strongman government, hunting of members of other nations, ordinary fascism and racism. OF as a whole must counter all this," Mr. Uhl pointed out.

New Communist Party Chairmen Appointed

AU0111133390 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Oct 90 p 2

["(PER)"-signed report]

[Text] Late on Friday [26 October] evening three nonsalaried Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia [KSCM] Central Committee deputy chairmen were elected at the KSCM session. They are: M. Grebenicek, J. Kos (Federal Assembly deputies), and J. Ortman (a Czech National Council deputy). V. Novak from Kladno was elected KSCM Central Committee executive secretary.

Ostrava Regional Police Chief Recalled

AU3110115890 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 25 Oct 90 p 2

["tma"-signed report: "Jiri Sprusil Is No Longer the Regional Chief; Departure of a Popular Man?"]

[Text] Prague—According to yesterday's Czechoslovak Press Agency release, Czech Republic Interior Minister Tomas Hradilek suspended Lieutenant Colonel Jiri Sprusil from his post of the regional chief of police in North Moravia. He did so after consultations with Federal Interior Minister Jan Langos, Jan Ruml, his first deputy, Jiri Muller, director of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Democracy, and Frantisek Starek, his deputy. Lieutenant Colonel Jiri Sprusil was suspended according to law 100 of 1970 because he is allegedly suspected of a significant infraction of his official duties. Currently, his activities are even being investigated by the Czech Ministry of Interior Inspection. The justification is that Jiri Sprusil used press and other media to incite and increase the tension between various security units and denigrated the decisions of his superiors. At the meetings and gatherings he is supposed to have spoken of the Ministry of Interior representatives in a manner unsuitable for a police official. The Czech minister of interior assigned Colonel Ludvik Vaculka to head the Ostrava Regional National Security Corps Administration.

Ludvik Vaculka originally worked in Ostrava and then, until recently, he was a deputy Czech minister of interior. Tomas Hradilek had to recall him from that post because at the time of warning strikes by the retail shop workers, he issued an order to the police to find out which shops were going to be open and which were not.

Jiri Sprusil gained immense popularity in Ostrava by his uncompromising approach to the growing criminality. An action law—a series of extensive security measures, a majority of which was markedly successful—was implemented on his initiative.

Statistical Data Show Increase in Cost of Living

AU3110112890 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 25 Oct 90 p 5

[CTK report: "Growth in the Cost of Living"]

[Text] Prague— A comparison between the development of the cost of living in the third quarter of 1990 and the fourth quarter of 1989, which was conducted by the Czech Statistical Office, shows the following aggregate growth in the cost of living index for individual socioeconomic groups of the population—13.1 percent in the group of workers and employees, 12.9 percent in the group of cooperative farmers, and 14.5 percent in the group of pensioners.

The increase in the aggregate cost of living index in all three socioeconomic groups has been influenced by changes in the price level, particularly in the level of food prices but also in the price level of industrial merchandise.

The different levels of changes in the cost of living index for individual groups of the population are caused, above all, by their diverse structures of consumption.

Meciar: Language Law Protests Aim To Seize Power

AU0111122090 Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak 29 Oct 90 p 2

["ll"-signed report: "Help From Journalists Welcome; On the Present Situation in Slovakia"]

[Text] During a meeting of Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar and First Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky with representatives of the media on Saturday, 27 October, Premier Meciar expressed, among other things, his opinion on the political and legal disputes over the language law:

The coalition parties changed their draft of the law and worked out a new one. Almost no one knows this fact, which has been completely overlooked in the current political rumpus. The draft worked out [by the coalition parties] was essentially a compromise between the draft tabled by the Slovak National Heritage Foundation and the original coalition draft. Negotiations were held among the political parties for several weeks, the aim of which was to reach a consensus and come up with a joint bill. Unfortunately, the whole affair has been politicized and there was no willingness [on the part of the negotiating parties] to change one's position. Even on the day of the Slovak National Council session [on 25 October which passed the language law] I implored representatives of all parties in the lobbies—the government and the Slovak National Council Presidium had also been invited—to come to an agreement and adopt a joint legal norm because the differences [between the proposed versions of the law] were negligible. No agreement was reached because representatives of the Slovak National Party [SNS] announced that they are bound by party

discipline and the position of their party and are unable to accept the [coalition] draft. The difference between the coalition draft and the draft of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation (which was tabled by a group of deputies) was that in the first article the foundation's draft orders the use of the Slovak language without exception. In the next article, however, it does allow for an exception—it provides for an exception for the three percent of Hungarians who never had a chance to learn Slovak or who have other particularly serious reasons [for not being able to speak Slovak]. The foundation's draft did not determine the territory on which the minority would be able to use its language and the term "other serious reason" is legally vague. The coalition draft, on the other hand, stated that it allows for the possibility for all Hungarians, as well as members of the other ethnic minorities, to use the Hungarian language or another minority language in villages or towns where the minority represents at least 20 percent of the population. Even in instances when the Hungarian language is used in dealings with the authorities, the principle holds true that written documents must be issued in the Slovak language. In other words, the differences between the two drafts are essentially so negligible that [in both drafts] the answer to the question of the Slovaks' rights is clear: A Slovak can communicate in the Slovak language everywhere in Slovakia and there is an obligation to accommodate him everywhere, in every village, even if 100 percent of its population is Hungarian. That was the whole political problem. Even the law proposed by the foundation was not a law on the enactment of the Slovak language without exception as some people present the issue. Of course, a huge campaign was launched in connection with the Slovak National Council session, which was prepared very intensively. Some leading SNS officials, with Mr. Moric at their head, were involved in these preparations as well as some functionaries of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation. Yet this is only true of its Bratislava branch because no one consulted on these issues in [the Slovak National Heritage Foundation headquarters in] Martin. When representatives of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation from Martin came to Bratislava and wanted to attend talks between representatives of the SNS and the foundation, they even let them stay outside the door. The following groups were also involved in this operation: the Stur Society, the "Roots" [Korene] Group, the Party for Independent Slovakia, and several other groups operating on the national principle. The political activity which they attempted to launch could have had serious consequences. True, we underestimated somewhat the danger which we saw and did not face up to it before it manifested itself in the streets. We knew that talks with students were being held and that the establishment of some kind of a civic bloc [obcansky blok] was being prepared. Yet we also knew that the views and positions which they shout and proclaim are so extreme and so devoid of a rational core that we did not expect them to gain any relevant support. I must admit that.

Commenting on the recent demonstration before the Slovak National Council building during the debate on the language law, V. Meciar said: The political demands raised there went beyond the framework of political protest and we assess them today as an attempt to seize power. They created a series of shocks, the ultimate aim of which was to force these bodies [presumably the Slovak Government and parliament] to resign so that power would be transferred to a group that would try to deal with the situation in its own way, in harmony with its views.

At the close of his statement V. Meciar underlined that this was not an all-Slovak movement but that it involved a group of citizens which it is impossible to claim that it is representative.

The press, radio, and television representatives assured the government representatives that it is the Slovak journalists' ambition to help stabilize the political and social situation.

VPN Movement Sees Language Law as Complete

LD3110193490 Prague CTK in English 1643 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 31 (CTK)—Chairman of the Public Against Violence (VPN) civic movement in Slovakia, Fedor Gal, told journalists here today that VPN views the question of the language law as completed.

Last week, the Slovak National Council (parliament) passed a law enacting Slovak as the official and state language in Slovakia, but allowing ethnic minorities to use their mother tongues in official contacts. This has drawn strong protests from Matica Slovenska, a cultural organization founded in 1863, supported by the nationalistic-orientated Slovak National Party (SNS) which proposed Slovak without any exception as the official language.

Several people have been on a hunger strike outside the Slovak parliament building since the law was passed last Thursday thus protesting against the law. Fedor Gal said VPN is not indifferent to their fate and has asked the Helsinki committee for assistance in solving the situation.

He noted that the language law does not solve the problems of relations between the Slovaks and the Hungarians, the strongest ethnic minority in Slovakia totalling around 600,000 people. Slovakia, the smaller of the two constituent parts of Czechoslovakia, has a population of some 5 million.

VPN spokesman Sergej Michalic criticized journalists for offering people unobjective information, and even outright lies about the events of the last week. He quoted an example: Papers wrote that 82 percent of the Slovak population favoured the draft bill worked out by Matica Slovenska (Slovak Without Exception), but the results of a sociological poll spoke about 82-percent support for

enactment of Slovak as the official language, i.e. the polled did not distinguish between the two drafts which differed in their attitude to the languages of the minorities.

Moravian Nationalists, Republicans Demonstrate

AU3010184590 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 25 Oct 90 p 2

[Unattributed report in the "Briefly From Home" column]

[Text] "Democracy in Danger" was the title of yesterday's demonstration in Brno, in which about 2,000 citizens took part. The demonstration was organized by the Association for the Republic-Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, the Moravian Civic Movement, and the Civil Liberties Movement. Miroslav Sladek [Republican Party chairman] said that the Republicans are barred from expressing their views in the media. Moravian Civic Movement Chairman Miroslav Richter told the assembly that Moravians' demands are being ignored, treated with disrespect, belittled, and ridiculed in Prague and that they have triggered a storm of chauvinism in the Prague media. According to his words, "the power holders do not respect anyone who does not avail himself of equally strong or even stronger means of power." Similar views were expressed also by Civil Liberties Movement representative Petr Cibulka.

Slovak Government Travels to Prague for Talks

AU3110093390 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 24 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

[Karel Hvizdala, Zdenek John, Jindrich Stefanek, and Petr Sabata report: "Not To Pull the Same Tooth Twice"]

[Text] Yesterday in Bratislava, the Government of the Slovak Republic discussed further proceeding in dividing the domains of jurisdiction among the governments of the Slovak Republic, Czech Republic, and Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. About noon then, its representatives headed by Premier Vladimir Meciar unexpectedly departed for Prague to conduct additional negotiations there.

I Threatened Twice Already

We asked Slovak Government Premier Vladimir Meciar about the reasons for his Prague visit immediately after he stepped onto the ground at Ruzyne airport.

[Meciar] We agreed in Trencianske Teplice and Piestany to proceed jointly in preparing the jurisdiction changes. They were to be completed by 20 September. This did not work out and therefore the preparations for the legislation have also been delayed. We had to prepare legislative norms for an amendment to Constitutional Law 143 of 1968 in order to enable the Federal Assembly to deal with the proposals. We want to maintain the amiable relationship with the Czech Government and prepare everything as a joint document. Therefore we came to our friends and we want to consult with them on how to proceed. I am convinced that documents as significant as these cannot be adopted without the agreement and support of the Civic Forum [OF], and therefore we are also coming to visit its new chairman. The document in question will decisively influence relations within the Czechoslovak federation. The Slovak side considers the proposal to be final, the constitutional proceedings should not influence the state administration. The latter should now be concerned solely with the economic reform.

[MLADA FRONTA] What do you think about your altercation with the Slovak minister of interior getting out into the open?

[Meciar] In Slovakia, the dissatisfaction with some members of the government has been known for a long time, and particularly with the work of the interior minister. When the security service is disintegrating and you see that elections are not being prepared properly, that the National Committee system is falling apart and its staff prepares strikes, that even transportation employees (in the sector of the Slovak Republic Ministry of Interior—ed. note) want to strike, and the minister has no time to go to them, what good does such a minister do? After all, the higher the salary one draws, the greater self-discipline he should have. The one who does not have it, should leave the government. As regards the interior minister's reaction to Monday's press conference, some of the alleged facts the minister gave are erroneous. That is in line with his character, he never took the straight path. Therefore, another press conference will follow, at which the accusations will be explained. The unpleasant part is that the Christian Democratic Movement [KDH] as a coalition partner—although they have known about all the blunders and were present at meetings where I have threatened twice already that I would rather leave than condone this in the government—took him under their wing. They say that either the coalition will disintegrate or Andras will be the interior minister. I said that should the government be like that, I will not be a part of it. The decision will probably be made next week.

[MLADA FRONTA] Mr. Premier, what would be your reaction if you were offered the federal premier's post?

[Meciar] I have never sought such a position and would not even accept it. The Federal Government has a premier, and it is an outcome of coalition talks. To pose questions regarding changes in the leading posts means to cast doubts on the coalition. It could take on an entirely different meaning in the extremely sensitive area of Slovak-Czech relations. Hence, on my side the standpoint is unequivocal. I promised to get something done in Slovakia. We started something but have not completed a thing yet. And one should not leave work half-done.

A Patient in the Dentist's Chair

The ministers in the Czech Government building did not actually find out about the intention of their Slovak colleagues to come to Prague until yesterday afternoon. A session was just taking place of Petr Pithart's cabinet (he himself, however, was at a spa at the time). We raised our question with Karel Dyba, Czech Republic minister for economic policy and development, who is in charge of jurisdiction affairs in the Czech Government:

[MLADA FRONTA] Do you have any idea whether the visit by Premier Meciar and his ministers will only speed up the settlement of the relationship between the federation and the republics or will it go beyond the limits set at the meetings in Piestany and Trencianske Teplice?

[Dyba] The main issue is that the deadline of 24 October, by which all the laws to be in effect next year must be approved by the parliament, should be postponed by one week. The governments are under great time pressure. If something beyond the framework agreed upon in Piestany and Trencianske Teplice comes up, we will not be able to back up.

Before the actual meeting began, Premier Meciar compared our position to that of a patient in a dentist's chair: "We will not pull the same tooth twice. We must not repeat Mr. Gorbachev's error—he began a reform but with the old structures. Should we not completely settle all these matters by the end of the year, a formidable political crisis might result."

Czech Deputy Premier Frantisek Vlasak agrees with the Slovak premier. The Czech Government "does not want to pull the same tooth twice" either. He points out, however, some still existing points of contention—particularly the question of the bank of issue and some foreign exchange matters.

The Slovak premier was the first one to leave the meeting (for a conference with OF Chairman Vaclav Klaus) and somewhat later he was followed by Czech Deputy Premier Frantisek Vlasak and Federal Deputy Premier Pavel Rychetsky (all three went to the parliament). Just before he left the Czech Government building, Deputy Premier Frantisek Vlasak let us know that the remaining ministers will push on with the talks. They divided all the items into several groups, from those on which the national governments agree to the controversial ones. Consensus is being sought on the latter. The key moment, however, was supposed to take place in the parliament, where the parliament's acceptance of the submissions on the proposed accelerated law was being considered.

Slovaks With a New Proposal

[Mlada FRONTA] Mr. Premier Calfa, what is your opinion of the Meciar-Andras argument?

[Calfa] This argument should be dealt with on two levels. First of all, it is in the jurisdiction of the Slovak National Council Presidium, which appointed both officials and must therefore take a stand. The argument has, however, one peculiarity, introduced by the fact that it takes place between coalition partners, and therefore, I think, it should be a subject of a meeting of the Public Against Violence [VPN] movement, the KDH, and the Democratic Party.

[Mlada Fronta] What can you tell us about Premier Meciar's trip to Prague?

[Calfa] The Slovak side came with a new proposal on establishing the limits of competence between the federation and the republics. It has presented its own proposal. The agreements from Trencianske Teplice and Piestany assumed that a proposal would be submitted as a result of the commission's work and that it would be formulated jointly by all three governments. As the 25 October deadline is approaching for proposals to the government of laws to come into effect as of 1 January 1991, time pressure is increasing. Now, however, a promise has been obtained from the Federal Assembly that it will not insist on the mentioned deadline in this case, and therefore approximately three weeks remain to work out the details. It concerns the preparation of a constitutional law and of course such a law cannot be conceived purely on the basis of an individual initiative but requires the concord of the republican governments, national councils, and Federal Government. It must be adopted by the Federal Assembly.

Evening in the Parliament

The joint session in the parliament of the deputy clubs of the OF and VPN movement at 1800 was attended among others by Marian Calfa, Vladimir Meciar, and representing the Federal Government, Pavel Rychetsky, Vladimir Dlouhy, Vaclav Klaus, Lubos Dobrovsky, Petr Miller, as well as Czech National Council Chairman Dagmar Buresova and several deputies of the Czech parliament, members of the Czech Government, representatives of the OF and VPN movement leadership, and for the Castle Jiri Krizan and Michael Zantovsky. Journalists were not permitted to attend.

Nevertheless, it was not difficult to obtain necessary information. Vladimir Meciar gave reasons for the proposal of the constitutional law which substantially changes competences and which was brought to Prague yesterday [23 October] by the Slovak representatives. Marian Calfa then, among other things, described the proposal as a complex one and pointed out that such a change cannot be made without the political consensus of movements in the legislative bodies. OF Chairman Vaclav Klaus on the other hand proposed to proceed pragmatically from case to case, to experiment, because we do not know enough to be able to modify all competences at once. In other words, he proposed to continue in the process initiated at the Trencianske Teplice meeting into which the Federal Government put a lot of work. He pointed out that the reason for the economy not working is not a bad state-legal arrangement, and refused to "conceal" the need for a new competence

distribution behind the economic reform. He appealed for the old guidelines to be followed while a new solution is sought concurrently. He further developed this idea later in the discussion. "We want to cooperate in solving all problems but cannot accept formulation of the type—rejecting our opinions means rejecting Slovak representatives."

In the subsequent discussion, which was heated at times and more moderate at others. The Czech representatives were more inclined to follow the process initiated at Trencianske Teplice and developed through the work of nine groups of experts. The Slovak spokesmen argued for the proposal brought by Premier Meciar. One Slovak deputy characterized the pressure under which the Slovak Government acts and the situation in Slovakia as follows: "There is no danger of a civil war but Slovakia is very sensitive on these issues."

Minister Dlouhy commented, among other things, on the manner in which the Slovak representatives acted: "One should not have proceeded this way—to put before us something that was already completed. This is a matter of trust. Suddenly, we are under undesirable pressure again."

And an outcome of the meeting concluded at around 2100? It certainly is good that it took place—both sides brought up important issues. The problem will be further dealt with jointly. The question remains, however, of how to deal with the 25 October deadline. By that date all proposals of the laws to come into effect on 1 January 1991, and that includes the competence law, should be submitted to the parliament.

Still later that evening a separate meeting took place between the VPN movement deputies and Premier Meciar.

Slovak Aluminium Goods Producers End Strike

AU3110152390 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 27 Oct 90 p 1

["mur"-signed report: "Saving Hand of the Bankers; Ziar No Longer Strikes"]

[Text] Ziar nad Hronom—Yesterday at 1130, the employees of the Slovak National Uprising Works ended their ten-day strike during which they stopped deliveries of aluminum to the 18 biggest customers in the CSFR. This decision was issued by the strike committee immediately after the preliminary credit agreement was signed on the premises of the General Credit Bank in Bratislava. Already on Monday [29 October], the Ziar nad Hronom branch of the bank will release the first 200 million korunas for company needs. Upon conclusion of the strike, the loading of the waiting trains began immediately at the Slovak National Uprising Works and a higher and exceptional volume of traffic should continue throughout the weekend.

President Havel Continues Tour of Slovakia

Gives Speech, Unveils Memorial

LD3010224690 Prague CTK in English 2038 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Bratislava Oct 30 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel today began his three-day tour of Slovakia, the smaller of Czechoslovakia's two constituent republics. His visit is to start a tradition of presidential officiating at Bratislava Castle.

Symbolically, he made a speech during celebrations of the 72nd anniversary of the Declaration of Martin in this town in Central Slovakia where 106 representatives of Slovak political parties voiced their support for the common Czechoslovak state two days after it was declared in Prague on October 28, 1918. The declaration put an end to Slovakia's integration into Hungary and strong tendencies to Magyarize the nation.

Calls made by some groups for the separation of Slovakia from the common state have been followed by demonstrations in Bratislava and other Slovak towns in the last few days.

In a reference to the adoption of a common declaration by Czechoslovak leaders at Slavkov two days ago Havel said that it spoke about the common fate, cultural and family relations linking the two nations.

He read an unpublished 1922 treatise by Slovak writer Martin Kukucin, which he had received from Kukucin's grand-niece in Canada a month ago. It anticipates the sentiments which complicate the two nations' relations at present. "Mutual relations would certainly be brighter if both sides were certain that they would find fraternal understanding and proper consideration on the other one. A reliable knowledge of things and a deep knowledge of the situation are necessary for such a view of things and conditions," President Havel quoted from the letter.

The president's visit began in Dolny Kubin, a town of 20,000 in the heart of the mountains in north-west Slovakia, where he was present at the unveiling of a memorial tablet to Jews who perished during the second World War.

Vaclav Havel said in a brief address that ideals with which the totalitarian regime was deposed were being put into life. There are also obstacles which show that the heritage after this regime is much worse than was assumed, he said mentioning an article in a Prague tabloid last week which has been described as "fascist."

The president then left for Bratislava where he is to see his play "Memorandum" in a local theatre and meet the actors this evening.

Receives Honorary Doctorate

LD3110111190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1000 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Republic President Vaclav Havel a short time ago received an honorary doctorate of philosophical sciences at a ceremony in Commenius University Hall in Bratislava. Present at the ceremony were leading Slovak representatives, Frantisek Miklosko and Vladimir Meciar, Professor Miroslav Kusy, rector of Commenius University, who made a speech, pro-rectors, and the deans of individual faculties.

Speaks at Bratislava University

LD3110143190

[Editorial Report] Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak at 1245 GMT on 31 October carries an 11-minute recorded speech by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel at an honorary doctorate presentation ceremony at Comenius University in Bratislava on 31 October.

Havel opens his address by stressing the importance of investing in education, culture, and science. He touches on the protest hunger strike against the language bill in Bratislava:

"It is important whether a child grows up in a plastic kitchen furnished in poor taste, in an ugly block of apartments, or in more noble surroundings. The first impressions, experiences, and knowledge form the child and somehow always predetermine his attitude toward the world. It is important if a child learns only his own mother tongue or if he lives in an environment linguistically richer and gets used to knowing more languages. In the present world this is an obvious necessity. The meeting of multilingual cultures always creates a more vivid experience of the world.

"It is indeed very sad when in our country young people are on a hunger strike protesting against the need to know a language other than the one they speak. If they were on a hunger strike because they wanted to learn three languages intensively at school then this would be more hopeful." [applause]

Havel concludes his speech by talking about basic research and stresses the need to invest in it.

Ends Visit, Honors Victims of Stalinism

LD0111124790 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1130 GMT 1 Nov 90

[Text] President Vaclav Havel ended the final day of his visit to Bratislava by meeting deputies.

Afterward, accompanied by Slovak National Council Chairman Frantisek Miklosko, he laid a bouquet of flowers at the grave of author Dominik Tatarka and paid homage to Vladimir (Velecky), a member of the (Bielik) resistance group who became a victim of Stalinism in 1951 and was executed.

The people of Bratislava, who came to Martin Cemetery to the graves of the deceased, spontaneously welcomed the president and expressed their respect and support for him.

Citizens With Exit Visas Kept From Leaving Iraq

AU0111104390 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 29 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

[Petr Pravda report: "Our People Are Calling SOS From Baghdad; Are Czechoslovak Citizens Being Held Hostage in Iraq?"]

[Excerpts] The first 18 out of 32 Czechoslovak citizens still in Iraq should have returned to Czechoslovakia yesterday or, at the very latest, today. According to the latest telephone reports from Baghdad, they will not return. Some of them managed to contact their wives on Friday or Saturday [26 and 27 October]. They got as far as the Iraqi-Jordanian border but, without any prior warning, the Iraqis sent them back again. They traveled 1,000 kilometers in vain. Why?

The aforementioned group of Czechoslovak citizens is working on the construction of an engineering plant at Daura, on the basis of a contract concluded by the Technoexport joint-stock company. [passage omitted]

The last telephone call was on Saturday [27 October]. Mrs. Mastna's husband called and described the situation at the Jordanian border: "At the customs office we were told that they just received a telegram from Baghdad saying that Czechoslovakia had sent an antichemical warfare unit to Saudi Arabia. They indicated that we are prisoners, took away our exit visas, and sent us mercilessly back to Baghdad." The caller was desperate: "The situation is bad, do something or we will die here!"

What will happen next? Yesterday we tried to get in touch with our competent bodies. [passage omitted] At 1420 we called our embassy in Baghdad. Charge d'affaires A. Gula had just returned from the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He confirmed that our citizens were withdrawn from the neutral border zone on Friday [26 October] on the basis of a telephone call or telegram from Baghdad. The Iraqi side has not yet provided any official explanation. Today the whole affair is to be discussed at the ministry in Baghdad again. Our workers are waiting in the Mahmudiya camp where they live. They are okay. So far they still have some food supplies. Bread is more difficult to get because it is rationed and there are long lines for it.

Many questions come to mind. What was the main reason that, unlike the Germans or the French, our people had to return? [passage omitted] It is unlikely that it was a reaction to the sending of the antichemical warfare unit [to Saudi Arabia]. We called the military base at Slany where the unit is deployed. It is still waiting to be transferred. [passage omitted]

The Ministry of Defense confirmed to us yesterday afternoon that the antichemical warfare unit has not left so far because it has not yet received any invitation from Saudi Arabia.

Possible President Bush Visit Questionable

LD3110211990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] The press department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has neither confirmed nor denied the report about a possible visit to Czechoslovakia by U.S. President Bush. With reference to sources close to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CTK says that a brief stay by the U.S. President in Czechoslovakia appears to be on the whole possible. Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister Martin Palous did not voice his view on this issue. He pointed out that providing the answer to this question is in the province of the Office of the President of the Republic.

'Competent' Soviet Source on Cut in Oil Exports

AU0111113190 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Oct 90 pp 1, 3

[RUDE PRAVO Moscow correspondent Zdenek Zuntych report: "Oil for the CSFR is Ready"]

[Excerpt] Megion/Tyumen/Moscow (from our correspondent)—[passage omitted] As I learned in Tyumen from competent sources which do not wish to be named, the USSR will have to cut crude oil deliveries to the CSFR, Bulgaria, and other East European countries by 6 million tonnes in the fourth quarter of 1990. It intends to sell this oil for dollars in order to purchase equipment that is vitally important for the operation of the oil industry, which is on the brink of a collapse.

"It is not because we do not want to supply oil to you. The situation simply is as it is. If we do not save our oil industry now, it may well happen that there will be no deliveries whatsoever next year," the well-informed source told me and added that the USSR would otherwise run the risk of losing 65 million tonnes of crude oil in 1991. [passage omitted]

USSR Peace Cooperation Agreement Discussed

LD3010234790 Prague CTK in English 2032 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 30 (CTK)—A draft Czechoslovak-Soviet intergovernmental agreement on granting assistance in natural and ecological disasters, and big industrial accidents was discussed here today.

Czechoslovak Civil Defence Chief of Staff Major General Miroslav Budsky and Soviet Deputy Chief for the Protection of the Population and National Economy Lieutenant General Nikolay Dolgin said that civil defence now concentrates not on the population's defence in war, but on tackling emergency situations in peace conditions.

After the signature of the agreement at the beginning of next year, its provisions will be specified by the governments of the Slovak Republic and the Ukraine.

General Budsky said that similar agreements are to be signed soon with all states bordering on Czechoslovakia. There are also prospects of cooperation in civil defence with Sweden and the Netherlands.

Premier Calfa Interviewed Prior to USSR Visit

AU3110103590 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 29 Oct 90 p 2

[Interview with CSFR Premier Marian Calfa, by Branislav Janik; place and date not given: "One Question for M. Calfa, the Federal Premier"]

[Text] [Janik] A strong Czechoslovak delegation—made up of the premier, Deputy Premier Vales, Minister of Economy V. Dlouhy, the two republics' ministers of industry, and the deputy federal ministers of foreign trade, economy, and finance—will depart for major talks in Moscow tomorrow. Friday [26 October] night you said on television that these talks are of vital importance for our side. With what will the Czechoslovak delegation board the TU-154 plane at 0600 hours tomorrow?

[Calfa] Last Thursday [25 October] the Soviet side confirmed the content of the talks, which will encompass a wide range of issues. We will exchange information on the economic reform and want to discuss specific questions of economic and trade cooperation. I regard as vitally important the talks on deliveries of raw materials, particularly crude oil, up to the end of this year and in the first half of 1991, because the cut in supplies heralded by the Soviets for the rest of this year would after some time not only bring about the collapse of our petrochemical industry but would jeopardize the operation of the entire national economy. According to a report from Moscow, the USSR will reduce crude oil deliveries to the CSFR, Bulgaria, and other East European countries by an additional 6 million tonnes in the fourth quarter of this year, oil which it must sell for dollars to be able to buy technology for the oil industry. We will discuss the implementation of the intergovernmental agreement signed by Messrs. Vales and Katushev at Zbraslav [near Prague] in September and will deal with our investment projects in the USSR, also in connection with an offer which we received from Germany to become involved in the construction of apartments in the USSR within the framework of German-Soviet agreements [on the departure of Soviet troops from the former GDR]. We also want to raise the issue of Soviet compensatory payments for the damage caused by Soviet troops which are now departing from the CSFR, and will therefore inform the Soviet partners on the principles for the work of the commission of experts that is drawing up an intergovernmental agreement on property and financial settlement connected with the departure of Soviet troops. The possible consequences of

the Soviet government's decision to allow Soviet citizens to travel freely abroad as of 1 November will also be discussed.

Naturally, this is still not the complete agenda of tomorrow's talks in Moscow, but we want to return with specific results in the evening.

Holds Talks With Ryzhkov in Moscow

WA3110105290

For reportage on the visit by CSFR Premier Marian Calfa to Moscow on 30 October for talks with Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov on oil supplies and troop withdrawals, please see the Eaat Europe section of the 31 October Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

No Objections to Total Ban on Chemical Weapons

AU3110083890 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 25 Oct 90 p 2

[Unattributed report in the "Just Briefly" column]

[Text] The CSFR representation in Paris passed onto the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs a document in which President Vaclav Havel withdraws Czechoslovak objections to the Geneva Protocol on the Ban of all Suffocating, Poisonous, and Bacteriological Mediums in Warfare. The protocol was signed in 1925 and the Czechoslovak Republic was one of the signatories. It requested, however, an exception if forced by the circumstances.

Agreement on Joint Austrian Bank Venture Signed

AU3110113490 Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 27 Oct 90 p 4

["kz"-signed report: "Zentralsparkasse in Prague"]

[Excerpts] The Austrian Zentralsparkasse Kommerzialbank and the "Z-Leasing" and "Vienna Trade" companies opened their joint representative office on Revolucni Street in Prague yesterday. [passage omitted] On the occasion of the opening of the new representation, an agreement was signed between Zentralsparkasse and the Czech State Savings Bank on founding a joint bank. This bank, which should be established within one year, will have a start-up capital of $10 million.

ECONOMIA Joins International Media Group

AU3110142390

[Editorial Report] Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech on 26 October on page 2, under the headline "HOSPODARSKE NOVINY Has a Foreign Partner," carries a 200-word unattributed report on the signing of a cooperation agreement between the ECONOMIA joint stock company, which publishes HOSPODARSKE NOVINY, and the EUROEXPANSION company.

According to the report, cooperation will mainly involve "the exchange of commercial and economic information and HOSPODARSKE NOVINY's incorporation into the EUROEXPANSION computer data-base."

The report adds that EUROEXPANSION is based in Brussels and that its main shareholders are the French media group Expansion, the German Handelsblatt group, and Dow Jones from North America.

Soviet Electricity Supply at 'Tolerable Level'

LD3110114690 Budapest MTI in English 1051 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 31 (MTI)—The deficiency of Soviet electricity supplies has been reduced to a tolerable level, Tibor Pinter, director of the National Electricity Distribution Company informed MTI on Wednesday. On Tuesday the quantity of electricity received was only 300-350 megawatts (mw) less than agreed and the situation has not changed since. On the four previous days the shortage reached 1,200 mw.

The reason for the Soviet partners being able to increase deliveries must have been the softening of the weather, which caused a drop in Soviet consumption. However, Hungary still has not received any information as to when the Soviets can revert to forwarding the full quantity agreed.

The Hungarian electricty grid, in return for earlier deliveries, receives 200-250 mw from Yugoslavia and an assistance of 100 mw from Germany, to make up for deficiencies of Soviet deliveries. Thus, supplies are sufficient at the moment.

Oil Deliveries Discussed With Soviet Union

LD3110184490 Budapest MTI in English 1701 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 31 (MTI)—A delegation of the Ministry of International Economic Relations is currently having talks in the Soviet Union on oil deliveries in the weeks to come, Istvan Tamas, a senior official of the ministry, told MTI.

The proposal that Hungary would import 200,000 tonnes of oil directly from Bashkiria before the year is out in return for Hungarian exports of foodstuffs and consumer goods will also be discussed.

Tamas said the Soviet union had not indicated at any foreign trade talks its intention to deliver oil to Hungary only for dollars or goods obtainable for hard currency.

Tamas confirmed that the Soviets had undertaken to deliver 150,000 tonnes of oil for rubles in November, as against the 343,000 tonnes stipulated by the inter-state agreement, and anything above the former figure would have to be paid for either in hard currency or in products only obtainable for hard currency.

Agreement on December deliveries, however, is not expected to be reched before the end of November, Tamas said.

Oil To Be Sold for Hard Currency

LD3110184990 Budapest MTI in English 1725 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 31 (MTI)—Speaking to MTI's correspondent after the Wednesday news conference at the Southern Soviet Army Group headquarters, Defence Ministry spokesman Gyorgy Keleti said: "We were informed after the press briefing that the Soviet minister of foreign economic relations had notified its Hungarian partner that due to the change in oil market conditions the Southern Soviet Army Group HQ was not in a position to sell the petrol and diesel oil at its disposal for forints, only for hard currency.

"They also said that the fuel was only on sale together with tanks, which could be sold for forints," Keleti stated.

Ambassador to USSR Discusses Oil Situation

LD3111235190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Telephone interview with Sandor Gyorke, ambassador to the USSR, by unidentified reporter on 31 October; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] I am welcoming on the phone Sandor Gyorke, Hungarian ambassador to the USSR. Mr. Ambassador, during the past few days, following the weekend gasoline crisis, we have heard and read with increasing frequency that perhaps it would have been better to be more cautious in Hungarian-Soviet relations. We should not have irritated the already morose Soviet Union—the handler of the oil taps—with posters reading Comrades, the End [tovarishcki konets], with the reassessment of World War II, and other matters. Now you can see politics striking back at the economy. Do you agree with this?

[Gyorke] I think the two questions must be separated. During the weekend I forwarded the Hungarian government's evaluation of the gasoline problem to the Soviet leadership. I asked for their intervention to ease our situation regarding gasoline or crude oil deliveries. I met responsible Soviet leaders, among them Mr. Sitaryan, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Mr. Khasbulatov, deputy speaker of the Russian parliament, and RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] President Mr. Yeltsin, and they received the information with great interest.

[Reporter] Only with interest? Not with the intention to help?

[Gyorke] They told me they understood our situation, and they realize that in our difficulties the hiccoughs in the delivery of the Soviet crude oil plays a certain role. They expressed their wish to help the Hungarian Government and the Hungarian people. They said that there had never been, and never will be, any deliberate intention on their part to hold up the deliveries. There are no political reasons and there are no planned actions; the delays in their deliveries are simply the result of the increasingly worsening internal economic situation and their oil producing companies getting into a more and more difficult situation. They can not guarantee the production expected of them.

[Reporter] The opinion can also be heard that the Czechoslovak Government. The Czechoslovak leadership is maintaining a better policy, a more clever policy. Premier Calfa, in the course of his talks yesterday, managed to agree on this year's contingent for next year. The Czechs went to the Tyumen oil field and, having investigated the claims there, established direct connections. Does this have ground?

[Gyorke] I have to say that every former socialist country has problems with their economic relations with the Soviet Union. This has general reasons. The Czechoslovak and Polish sides, of course, could take certain steps sooner, but I would not say that by this they could achieve some sort of quality advantage. They are indeed judged in the same way we are. [passage omitted]

[Reported] Mr. Ambassador, why is it then that we have no agreement with the Soviet leadership similar to the one which Calfa and Ryzhkov signed yesterday?

[Gyorke] I would like to say that one should clearly see that our economic relations will be taking place soon, I could say in a couple of weeks, on four levels at least, on the level of the Federal and the republic's government, with the leadership of the regions and with the enterprises. [passage omitted]

Soviet Colonel Sends Letter to President Goncz

Addresses Grave Desecration

LD3110131790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1200 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] So far, half the troops stationed here have left Hungary. It was said at a news conference today that the troop withdrawal is proceeding according to schedule and all Soviet troops will have left our country by the originally set deadline.

The biggest problem, however, is that, in many places which have been vacated by the Soviet troops, Soviet soldiers' graves are being desecrated. For this reason, Colonel General Burlakov addressed a letter to the president of the Republic asking him to launch an investigation on the desecrators of the graves.

Denies Oil, Troop Withdrawl Linked

LD3110185690 Budapest MTI in English 1706 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 31 (MTI)—The cuts in Soviet oil deliveries are not connected with the financial debates related to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary, colonel Anatoliy Kirilov, deputy chief-of-staff of the Soviet Southern Army Group, told the press at the Matyasfold Headquarters of the army group on Wednesday.

By late October, over half of the 50,000 troops had left the country, and 53 barracks and 23 garrisons have been handed over to the Hungarian authorities to date.

Troop withdrawals are going according to schedule and are not being hindered by the financial debates. By December 1990, 70 per cent of all combat units will have returned to the Soviet Union. By April 1991, only those units are to remain in Hungary that are to deal with the delivery of military equipment.

The colonel criticized the Hungarian side for breaking its promise of rendering assistance in the sale of 125,000 tonnes of Soviet material, mainly fuel, ammunition, and chemicals.

On this score, Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, spokesman for the ministry of Defence, said that the Soviets kept changing the list of their goods for sale and the prices, making it impossible for Technika, the FTO in charge, to make business deals.

The Soviet side denied that some military objects had been handed over to Hungarian social and political organizations and that Soviet soldiers had sold weapons to the Hungarian population.

The representatives of the Southern Army Group illustrated with photographs that several Soviet military graves had been desecrated in Hungary. They expressed regret over the failure of the Hungarian authorities to take action against the perpetrators.

Antall Abstains From 1 Nov Government Session

LD0111094490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0700 GMT 1 Nov 90

[Text] Today, the government will discuss, among other things, the main guidelines for next year's budget, taxation of housing loans, and compulsory car insurance.

The session will again be chaired by Interior Minister Balazs Horvath, due to Prime Minister Jozsef Antall's illness.

Independent Smallholders Party Deputy Resigns

LD0111103790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0700 GMT 1 Nov 90

[Text] The deputy general secretary of the Independent Smallholder's Party [FKgP] resigned because of internal disintegration of the party.

In his letter of resignation, Dr. Arpad Gyoergyi justified his decision by saying that the party has no national leadership and that the party headquarters, apart from personal ambitions, is being led primarily with the intention of engineering the collapse of the coalition and removing coalition president Ferenc Jozsef Nagy.

The internal financial situation is catastrophic, and the party membership was reduced by more than 50 percent since March.

In addition, wrote Dr. Arpad Gyoergyi, the preparations of the local government elections on the part of the FKgP were irresponsible, amateur, and against the interests of the party.

Independent MP Joins Alliance of Free Democrats

LD3110190690 Budapest MTI in English 1715 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 31 (MTI)—Independent MP Bela Kiraly, commander-in-chief of the National Guards in 1956, has applied for admission to the Alliance of Free Democrats (AFD) [SZDSZ]. His application has been accepted by the largest opposition party.

Kiraly told MTI that he had advocated a grand coalition even before the parliamentary elections. He thought the union of all progressive forces would be a precondition for the renewal of the Hungarian nation. Kiraly regretted that no grand coalition had been formed, and found that his continual experience in parliament was one of a government that refused to hold public debates. In Kiraly's view, such arrogant resistance to peaceful consultation with the opposition and society was the trigger to the nationwide crisis last weekend.

"We should not just sit back and watch as the crisis continues. Those who wish to mobilize all Hungarian forces for peaceful progress and reconstruction should pool forces. I think the AFD, together with the Federation of Young Democrats, are the most dynamic force for helping the nation to surface from the current political, economic, and confidence crisis. This is why I applied for admission to the Alliance of Free Democrats."

Hungary's 386-member parliament includes six independent members, 161 representatives of the Hungrian Democratic Forum, the strongest governing party, and 93 representatives of the AFD.

Gabor Demszky Elected Mayor of Budapest

LD3110121590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Perhaps the most important event in Budapest since the self-government elections is that the metropolitan General Assembly today is holding its founding session. The new representatives are meeting for the first time and Gabor Demszky, the new honorable mayor, has also taken his oath. Gabor Bankuti reports:

[Bankuti] [passage omitted] Present at the session were President Arpad Goncz and Interior Minister Balazs Horvath.

The president of the Republic described it as symbolic that the fathers of Budapest have assembled two days after the cleansing storm of the weekend when we had to rethink our affairs. We must not simply do things differently than before. There is a need for a new beginning. The main task of the city's leaders is to create a sense of security for citizens. The human being should stand at the focus of their work. According to the rules of democracy, the citizen himself elects his leaders and they are obligated to serve him. The principle must be restored that administration exists for the citizen and not the other way around and this administration has to be modernized and adjusted to the electronic age.

The president of the Republic asked the General Assembly to approach every issue from the standpoint of professional requirements and not party interests. They should prove that Budapest is not a [word indistinct] but a (?torch) in the country. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] Dr Gabor Demszky obtained 52 of the 84 votes in the secret ballot.

Political Crisis Situation Analyzed

AU0111111190 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 27 Oct 90 p 3

[Zoltan Lovas editorial: "Crisis"]

[Text] One does not know whether this was the moment of a catharsis in Hungary, but, unfortunately, one can definitely conclude that an open political crisis broke out in Hungary on 25 October. What is the essence of this new Hungarian political crisis? I think it is the loss of confidence. The spontaneous protests of the taxi drivers shows better than any measuring instrument everything that was predictable from the low participation in the local government elections—namely, that our society has lost confidence in the government supported by the majority of the legitimate Hungarian parliament. In other words, this means that, whether they admit it or not, this government is in a crisis situation. There is a government crisis in Hungary! This is also a crisis of the peaceful transition. Furthermore, the new Hungarian democracy was very weak as it is!

Government crises are generally solved by forming a new government in other places, such as the much desired West. We are in the East, however, which was not always desired, but forced upon us. Because of the balance of forces in our parliament, it is impossible to create a government with a different party background. If another party background is similar to the present one, how could we set up a better and more efficient government?

Hungarian society has had a big lump in its throat since 25 October. We are talking about a lump of bitterness, helplessness, and disappointment. Finally, we must now face ourselves and answer the following question: Is that all we are able to do? Government measures which are a danger for the government and the public alike, and spontaneous rebellion and the hindering of everyday life? [sentence as published] Is this the common road leading us out of the crisis? Hardly so.

A body called the national salvation government which would enjoy broad party support, a body made up of real experts, could still have provided a solution a few weeks or even a few days ago. Today, this road has also become questionable, precisely because of the general crisis of confidence that occured on 25 October.

How do we know that there is a general crisis of confidence now? It is enough to consider the series of events: the fact that the taxi drivers were able to rebel so efficiently and so quickly, the fact that the people in the streets did not turn against them, and the fact that these people stand in lines for bread and take three or four loaves of bread home.

How do we know that this government is in a crisis situation? We know this from the way this government led itself into this critical situation, from its failure to predict the consequences of its deeds, from the irresponsible and haphazard way a series of responsible people make various statements that lack any concept, and from its failure to keep the country on the right track and maintain social calm.

The next question, of course, is what could be the way out of all this? I do not know. Nor do I know what the next hours and days will bring. Hopefully, they will bring calm and consolidation.

There is, however, already a broad lesson to be learned from all this. We can now see how thin the ice is on which we are all advancing, how quickly public transportation and the supply of goods to the public can collapse, and how quickly Hungary can turn into a semi-paralized country. We are not talking here about the confidence that has been lost over several months.

In cases like this, when problems arise, we must keep cool and display careful, calm thinking and clean, logical arguments, rather than threatening statements, should all this come from policemen, soldiers, taxi drivers, people standing in line, and especially from ministers.

This Orwellian October has presented us with a serious test, a test which I believe we can pass. I am confident that, after the people in the street, the politicians will also recognize their tasks.

Court Asked To Clarify Civil Disobedience

LD3010201290 Budapest MTI in English 1710 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 30 (MTI)—At its session on Tuesday, prior to the agenda, debate continued in the Hungarian parliament about the events that took place over the weekend, more precisely about their possible legal consequences, although the debate was closed on Monday.

Gyorgy Szabad announced on Monday that, as speaker of parliament, he intends to ask the constitutional court to clarify the constitutional limits of civil disobedience. On behalf of the independent MPs, Istvan Fodor, who was not given the possibility to speak on Monday, referred to Mr. Szabad's remarks, and noted: At the end of the interest co-ordination talks, the government considered it natural, and also made remarks of this kind, that it does not intend to initiate any sort of proceedings against the participants of the demonstration. Therefore, Mr. Fodor recommended that parliament not attest a conduct that goes against the intention and declaration of the government. He asked Mr. Szabad to request an opinion from the house before turning to the constitutional court.

In his reply, Mr. Szabad said he would ask the constitutional court to interpret the related paragraphs of the constitution, and the law on the right of assembly, also adding he had no intention of initiating any kind of reprisals.

Finance Minister Queried on Fuel Price Increase

AU3110102290 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 29 Oct 90 p 4

[Interview with Finance Minister Ferenc Rabar by Maria Lakatos in Budapest on 28 October: "The Buffer Has Become Temporary"; first paragraph is NEPSZABADSAG introduction]

[Text] In the break following the government declaration on 28 October, we asked Ferenc Rabar about some professional considerations.

[Lakatos] Mr. Minister, who will determine the price of fuel? It seems as if you will not be the one to do this, although this is the right of the finance minister.

[Rabar] You are wrong. This falls under the jurisdiction of the government.

[Lakatos] Does that mean that you did not have the right to determine the price in the course of the negotiations?

[Rabar] I already said that this depends on the decision of the government, especially in unusual situations and when the drop in reserves could severely threaten our economy.

[Lakatos] It is clear that the government is sticking to this fuel price because of our budget deficit. The government, however, should modify the budget law of 1990 with the participation of the parliament....

[Rabar] There is no need for this because our budget deficit was not the reason behind the increase in fuel prices.

[Lakatos] Then why do you need 10 billion forints, at such a price?

[Rabar] In the current situation, along the fixed prices, this would provide a security buffer to cover the price increases in the wake of the Gulf crisis. When the National Coordination Council accepted the liberalization of oil prices, this buffer became temporary, and,

following the quick parliamentary decision, a decrease of one or two forints in the price of fuel will become possible.

[Lakatos] As a member of the government, how do you personally and professionally evaluate the events?

[Rabar] Professionally, the decision was definitely justified because we only took into consideration a price of $29 per barrel, but certain predictions say that the price of crude could exceed $30 per barrel in 1991, and we would have liberalized the fuel prices in 1991 in any case. No matter how strange this may seem, from a political viewpoint, such a reaction was not predictable. I admit, however, that after so many price increases over such a long period of time, the effects of these price increases are accumulating to such an extent that society feels as if it can no longer bear the burden.

Agriculture Minister Questioned on Land Issues

AU3110203790 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 27 Oct 90 p 9

[Interview with Minister of Agriculture Jozsef Ferenc Nagy by Lorinc Szendrei; place and date not given: "Grasp on Agriculture Continues"; first paragraph is MAGYAR NEMZET introduction]

[Excerpts] Is it permissible to smash large-scale enterprises? Will we find a market in countries which are completely full of larders and cold stores? Will any experts remain on the land or in the stables? Is it possible to tolerate another agrarian cut? These cuts are starting to threaten the total decapitation—or even the complete uprooting—of an economic sector. We are talking about the issue of agriculture, which cannot be reduced merely to the reformulation of the land ownership principle. Before the parliamentary elections, the Independent Smallholders' Party [FKgP] promised that food prices would radically drop through the implementation of their program. In fact, production costs are soaring, a constant stream of new price tags are upsetting housewives, and—from the village farmer to the city dweller—everyone's patience is running out. We have reached the stage where a weekend family lunch is a luxury for most Hungarians. We asked Jozsef Ferenc Nagy, member of the FKgP: What can the agricultural sector expect, and what can we expect from the sector?

Will the Land Be Abandoned?

[Nagy] We have to face the fact that we are living amid the sequels of the party state era. The democratic coalition government has been unable to transform this oppressive legacy within a few months. In this branch, one also has to count with the laws of nature. An output cycle lasts for about eight to 10 months. In concrete and figurative terms, we are nurturing and reaping the seeds sown by the previous government(s). The misery of 40 years cannot be terminated in four months.

[Szendrei] In how many years would your government and party be prepared to account for your program?

[Nagy] Perhaps four years would be sufficient. At that stage, I do not think it would be impossible to tell where we began in 1990. [passage omitted]

[Szendrei] Neither the FKgP's nor the government's program makes it sufficiently clear that the reformulation of ownership conditions and the development of agricultural structures are two different issues. For example, the interpretation of the decision taken by the Constitutional Court on this matter also reflects this hesitancy.

[Nagy] That may be true. The most important thing is that a conscientious ownership spirit should replace the communal disinterest that flourished with collective ownership. This will necessitate specialist knowledge; we do not question that. Agricultural experts who have been trained for large-scale enterprises will also be able to hold their own on farms, family lands, or on the new cooperatives that will be founded on the genuine interests of owners. We will probably also have to wait for years before all agricultural workers care for every cob of corn, every trailer-load of produce, and every reared animal as if they were really their own...for they will be their own. [passage omitted]

[Szendrei] Wherever I look, I am haunted by the specter of unemployment. The FKgP has said that dismissed workers will be able to return to their villages; however, not even agricultural experts are being called back.

[Nagy] I am personally aware of these uncertainties; however, we are doing everything possible to reduce these uncertainties. There will be temporary difficulties, but I have faith in people's inventiveness, people who will allow Hungarian agriculture to recover its international reputation.

[Szendrei] This reputation can only be recovered on the market. Western Europe is incapable even of using up its own produce. Do we plan to break into their market? How? What are our chances?

[Nagy] Apart from self-sufficiency, it will be particularly important to recognize international market needs. There is still room for us there; our inclusion is unimaginable without selectivity in our production, thorough marketing research, and familiarity with international developments. An owner's attitude will also solve this problem. Let us not forget that even this year, agriculture is bringing the net sum of $1 billion into the country. This profit should also be available in the future. With the domestic use of Western aid, our profits could even increase. So far, Hungarian small farmers have been successful, and that is a sufficient guarantee for us to believe in the smaller and greater blessings of the change of ownership. Privately owned farms are also more flexible and agile on the international market.

Smallholders' Compromise

[Szendrei] There have been rumors that we are facing incredible price increases. People talk of pork prices at 400 forints.... You believe that the slowing of inflation rates is the most important goal. From our conversation, I still do not understand how you plan to slow down inflation rates.

[Nagy] I could reply that the finance minister probably has an exact answer to your question. As minister of agriculture, I can only say that, despite the dramatic atmosphere, the situation is still not catastrophic. Fodder shortages are undoubtedly pushing prices upward. [passage omitted]

Central Statistical Office on Mixed Enterprises

AU3110155490 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 26 Oct 90 p 9

["(F.B.)" -signed report: "Industry Is at a Disadvantage—Favored Areas: Trade, Tourism, Services"]

[Text] Last year's experience shows that foreign capital was mainly invested in trade, tourism, catering, and services. A less favorable treatment was given to industry, where investments are recovered over a longer period of time.

According to an analysis by the Central Statistical Office, in 1989, industrial enterprises represented 44 percent of the mixed enterprises functioning in Hungary, and, on the basis of the amount of foreign capital attracted, industrial enterprises represented 52 percent. The number of mixed enterprises functioning in industry had grown from 103 in 1988 to 482 in 1989. Among these, only five enterprises worked with ruble [R] accounts, and another three used both convertible and ruble accounts. The total capital invested amounted to some $240 million and R17 million. Figures reveal quite extreme amounts in the value of the foreign capital invested: The minimum amount was 100,000 forints (almost $1,700) and the maximum was 3 billion forints (more than $50 million.) Among the mixed enterprises, 60 enterprises were in majority foreign ownership. Five of these enterprises were in 100-percent foreign ownership, eight of these enterprises had foreign investments amounting to more than 90 percent of the total capital, and in 119 enterprises, the domestic/foreign capital ratio was 50-50. In 10 companies, foreign investments did not even account for one percent of the total.

The profits made by various mixed enterprises are not irrelevant, either. It is well known that firms benefit from various tax rebates, depending on the amount and ratio of foreign capital invested. (In firms where foreign investments reach 30 percent and 25 million forints in total, a tax rebate of 60 percent is granted during the first five years of activity, and in the case of particularly important activities, a 100-percent rebate can be granted.) In 1989, there were 161 stock companies and one traditional enterprise. Their losses only amounted to 0.6 billion forints, which represents a mere four percent of our total industrial loss. Furthermore, 306 mixed enterprises made a profit, and their total profit amounted to 10.7 billion forints, which represents 9.1 percent of our total industrial profit. From this total, 2.3 billion forints were deducted in profit tax, or in other deductions. On the other hand, discounts on profit tax amounted to 3.1 billion forints.

According to statistics, this general picture has not altered too much during the course of 1990.

1989 Results of Mixed Enterprises with Foreign Investments

	Profit-making enterprises	
Branch	Number	Profit in millions of forints
Metallurgy	6	279
Engineering industry	147	4721
Building materials industry	16	996
Chemical industry	46	2724
Light industry	64	939
Other industry	6	33
Food industry	21	1006

	Loss-making enterprises	
Branch	Number	Loss in millions of forints
Metallurgy	1	0
Engineering industry	67	268
Building materials industry	9	15
Chemical industry	20	129
Light industry	44	103
Other industry	8	14
Food industry	12	54

Branch	Percentage of profit left for the enterprise
Metallurgy	89.8
Engineering industry	92.1
Building materials industry	81.7
Chemical industry	57.7
Light industry	77.3
Other industry	47.1
Food industry	70.3

Presidential Candidate Appeals for Support

LD3010174690 Warsaw PAP in English 1525 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 30—At a press conference today, presidential hopeful Stanyslaw Tyminski denied rumours that he had bought many of the signatures required for his candidacy. He also declared his desire to present himself to the electorate as a man of action and as appealing to all strata of society.

According to Mr. Tyminski, Poland is a nation of great potential but great opportunities go wasted here.

The candidate also said that while he of course wants to win the elections, he will be content if his candidacy contributes to the further erosion of the inefficient system still prevelent in Poland.

Polonians around the world were also addressed by Mr. Tyminski with a call of support for his candidature: "I am calling on all those outside of the nation who are Poles in their hearts to support me, as all will benefit from my presidency."

Candidates' Backgrounds, Positions Outlined

LD3110095490 Warsaw PAP in English 1621 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 30—On October 26, the State Electoral Commission fixed the electoral list of candidates for the Polish Presidency in elections slated for November 25. The candidates were arranged in alphabetical order: Roman Bartoszcze, Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Leszek Robert Moczulski, Stanislaw Tyminski and Lech Walesa.

The following is the candidates' electoral credo:

1. Roman Bartoszcze, 44, chairman of the main executive committee of the Polish Peasant Party, well-known activist of rural solidarity; vocational education; the owner of a farm in the Slawecin Village in the Bydgoszcz Voivodship; married, 4 children.

—Agricultural production, that is, the production of food for cities is a matter of importance for all Poles. Industry and city services cannot develop without a simultaneous and dynamic development of agriculture.... We have a programme to improve the Polish economy that is feasible and can be readily implemented. We have competent staff and our programme is not empty and does not amount to an auction of unreal promises or to declaring failures as successes.

2. Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, 40, chairman of the Parliamentary Floor Group of the Democratic Left; doctor of legal sciences; the owner of a farm in the village of Kalinowka Koscielna in the Bialystok Voivodship; married, 2 children.

—I combine agricultural policy, that I know best, with housing economy. Both these areas are in need of greater government attention, preferential credits, and assistance.

Having food to eat and a flat to live in are the fundamental needs of every human. [transmission interrupted]

5. Stanislaw Tyminski, 42, businessman, millionaire, emigre; citizen of three countries: Poland, Peru, and Canada; leader of the Libertarian Party of Canada; resident of Toronto, Canada.

—I think that Poland, our homeland, is in a crisis that poses a threat to our economic sovereignty... inefficient and weak government cannot release the strength and energy necessary raise Poland from collapse.

We are approaching a critical moment and are threatened with the national economy becoming dependent to such a great extent that it will soon become impossible to gain full independence.

6. Lech Walesa, 47, Solidarity chairman and Nobel Peace prize winner. In the 1970's, he was an activist of free trade unions; vocational education; married, 8 children; Gdansk resident.

—Everything that I say and will say has the single aim of involving the greatest possible number of people in the cause of reforms. We stand a chance of Poland becoming Poland but more people must take part in building it.

I did not want to be president but I have to be. Not all the riddles have been solved yet. One should complete the Polish reforms and lead on to free parliamentary elections.

Candidates' Preelection Radio Comments Reported

LD3110123390

[Editorial Report] Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish at 0635 GMT on 31 October broadcasts its regularly scheduled "Election Studio" program on the run-up to Poland's presidential elections. The program is 30 minutes long.

The program starts with a recorded interview with Roman Bartoszcze, candidate from the Polish Peasant Party [PSL], on his general views on politics. In reference to Poland's current restructuring phase, Bartoszcze notes that it is the beginning of the longest war in Europe.

The Bartoszcze recording is followed by a recording of Lech Walesa's recent address in Krakow. Antoni Moacierewicz, a former Workers Defense Committee and Solidarity member who is now a National Christian Union member, then discusses his reasons for supporting Walesa's candidacy, stressing that Walesa is a very careful and responsible politician who knows the limits to any situation.

The portion of the program allocated to Prime Minister Mazowiecki's candidacy follows Moacierewcz's comments,

including recorded excerpts of a speech by Foreign Minister Skubiszewski in which he praises the foreign policy achievements and aims of the Mazowiecki administration. Skubiszewski notes Poland will probably sign a treaty by the end of the year making it an associate member of the EEC. He explains that it is well known that Poland cannot become a member of the Council of Europe as fully democratic elections have not yet been held in Poland, complaints on which should be addressed to Walesa and Deputy Prime Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak. He stresses the pertinency in which relations with the USSR and the invidual Soviet states developed, and concluded by saying: "I spoke to nearly 20 foreign ministers in the last four weeks. Concern was carefully expressed in diplomatic language as to whether political destabilization would not result in Poland, whether there would not be any thoughtless economic measures, which would hold up help from abroad, without which we will not go any further. I said that would not happen, and from this position I express that faith again. You know to whom I am addressing this. Our policy must continue to maintain its important one direction of multidirection, and namely of important changes, but implemented with a certain stability. That is what Tadeusz Mazowiecki has succeeded in achieving so far."

Leszek Moczulski, candidate from the Confederation for an Independent Poland [KPN] follows, speaking about his desire to see people brought to justice in Poland, but clarifying that he does not want any purges. He also talks about the recent Milewski affair.

Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, candidate from the Social Democratic Party follows, speaking exclusively about being a farmer. He and his wife are both lawyers but now farm in eastern Poland, where they have a large, mixed, highly mechanized farm. He emphasizes, however, that he did know how to use a plow.

Stanislaw Tyminski, the independent candidate, then discusses monetary politics.

At 0705 GMT, the program ends.

Dabrowski Cites Contradictions in Walesa Vision

LD3110143390

[Editorial Report] Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish at 1125 GMT on 31 October carries a 20-minute "Election Studio" program, in which each presidential candidate has an approximate three-minute slot.

The program opens with Lech Walesa's slot, which comprises excerpts from his speech when he was made an honorary citizen of the city of Krakow. He says that he will do everything possible to stop the further deterioration of Krakow's historical architecture. The intellectual and working class character of Krakow is in line with the spirit of Solidarity, Walesa remarks. With greater participation by everyone Poland's problems can quickly be overcome, he argues.

Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, the Social Democrat candidate, speaks about his agricultural policies. He stresses that the agricultural community has the right to expect active help from the state.

Next Roman Bartoszcze of the Polish Peasant Party and Rafal Krawczyk, the head of his team of advisers, speak on foreign policy and the need for Poland to have a strong place in Europe.

In Mazowiecki's slot Marek Dabrowski, until recently secretary of state at the Ministry of Finances, is asked a question with reference to remarks made yesterday by Jadwiga Staniszkis to the effect that the Walesa-Balcerowicz tandem would guarantee the implementation of the Balcerowicz program. He said Balcerowicz cannot be proposed as prime minister if at the same time populist slogans are used and moods of public material frustration are exploited. This is yet another of the inherent contradictions in Walesa's vision of the future. Only Mazowiecki can assure the stability needed to implement the Balcerowicz program, however difficult and slow it might be. Polish living standards are low, not because of government policies but because of Poland's low level of development. Any promises by other candidates for a quick and rosy recovery are hollow, Dabrowski says.

Leszek Moczulski of the Confederation for an Independent Poland talks about what is important in the campaign.

In conclusion Stanislaw Tyminski, independent, discusses the danger to Poles of the psychological condition of "collective fatalism."

Opinion Poll Queries Presidential Choices

LD3110220490 Warsaw PAP in English 2128 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 31—In a recent poll carried out by the Public Opinion Polling Centre (CBOS) 46.4 of the respondents said that they have already decided for whom they will vote in the November 25 presidential elections, 16.7 per cent have almost decided and 35.3 per cent are still unsure.

In the opinion of 46 per cent of respondents, Lech Walesa is a personality of Poland's political life and is liked more by Poles than Tadeusz Mazowiecki. 40.8 per cent of those polled pointed to Walesa as the winner of the elections, 27.8 per cent said it will be Mazowiecki who will become the president.

However in the opinion of 46.8 per cent of respondents said that Mazowiecki would be a better president while 30.3 per cent expressed the same opinion about Walesa.

In a time span of less than two weeks, the group of respondents predicting Mazowiecki's victory increased by 7 per cent, and the group of respondents who declared that they will vote for Walesa increased by 6 per cent.

Rupert Murdoch Bids for Warsaw Newspapers

AU3010182990 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 24 Oct 90 p 7

[Anna Bikont article: "EXPRESS Center, EXPRESS Murdoch"]

[Text] The "Prasa-Ksiazka-Ruch" Workers Cooperative Publishing House [RSW] Liquidation Commission plans to auction off EXPRESS WIECZORNY.

Apart from the Center Accord, which has been vociferously calling to have the paper transferred to it, interest has been shown in EXPRESS WIECZORNY by the Weltinex company (which sponsored the festival in Opole), Pewex, and the political group "Agreement Over Divisions" (whose members include Gustaw Herling-Grudzinski, Jerzy Giedroyc, Jan Olszewski, Zbigniew Romaszewski, and Romuald Szeremietiew), and News International Plc. [public limited company], which belongs to English press magnate Rupert Murdoch.

The latter seems to be the most serious contender. Murdoch not only possesses large financial resources, but also has the support of the team of journalists who have set up an employee cooperative. Along with the employee cooperatives at PRZEGLAD SPORTOWY, TOP, and PAN, it belongs to the Warsaw Press Group, which has informed the liquidation commission that it is ready to be transferred to Murdoch.

News International Plc. want a 50 percent stake in the publication of these four titles and has made an offer of $1 million. Once the purchase has been made, the company plans to invest a further $500,000.

As Murdoch's representative in Poland, Radoslaw Sikorski, told me, the company is not interested in taking over a paper whose editor in chief is from the Center Accord. They want to invest in a paper that is politically independent and whose editorial policy line will not be influenced by the government or by any political party. I asked him whether the company would be prepared to take over the morning edition of EXPRESS (and would give up EXPRESS WIECZORNY, which the Center Accord wants). Sikorski said that it would. The key issue for the company is the possibility of buying the EXPRESS building and printing works. Murdoch's offer cannot be described as over generous in view of the amount of money that he has. I asked Andrzej Bunn (the new editor in chief of both EXPRESS papers; he was elected to the post by the staff and is president of the employee cooperative) why they are prepared to sell themselves off to Murdoch for so little. He said that the cooperative had wanted to take over the paper by itself, but objections from the RSW Liquidation Commission had made them opt for the formation of a company with foreign share capital. In addition, assessments of the value of EXPRESS assets conducted by a British company employed by Murdoch and Liquidation Commission experts—the assessments were conducted independently of each other—yielded similar results.

Bunn said: "We want an open auctioning off with the highest bidder winning. We have already been assured additional sources of finance (the cooperative offers to contribute 10 billion zlotys) and we are convinced that Murdoch is in a position to significantly increase the sum that he is prepared to offer. However, we are receiving indications from the RSW Liquidation Commission that what we can expect is rival bidding, but with the outcome being settled beforehand, that is, we would be transferred to the Center Accord. That is something that we find unacceptable."

Daily Views Breakup of Party Publishing Monopoly

AU3010211590 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 26 Oct 90 p 11

[Article by Jerzy Drygalski, chairman of the Workers Publishing Cooperative Liquidation Commission: "The Press in Disarray"]

[Excerpts] The closer the Council of Ministers gets to final decisions, the greater the controversy and disagreement surrounding the plan to transform the Workers Publishing Cooperative [RSW]. Decisions on personnel and assets are a particular subject of interest. Unfortunately, the commission's decisions are always considered outside the social context. They therefore acquire a different meaning.

Our intention was to break up the old Polish United Workers Party's [PZPR] monopoly over the press. However, the RSW Abolition Act says not a single word on this subject, and yet that is what all the debates in the Sejm, press, and various social circles have been concentrating on. The PZPR press monopoly was rightly considered to be a key element of power. In the Sejm's intention, the act was supposed to be the tool with which to break it up.

Yet paradoxically, the act, though it has finally eliminated party control over the press, has also permitted editorial teams, most of them consisting of nomenklatura, to gain possession of their papers. In this way, the old political order has been preserved, and the new social forces have no influence over the post-communist press.

This situation has caused major dissatisfaction among "Solidarity"-related circles, new political parties, and especially among opposition journalists. A wave of protest against these nomenklatura takeovers has arisen, with demands for personnel decisions and for the right to be heard before final decisions are made. This protest has been augmented by the efforts of editorial teams to "establish a firm foothold" in the new situation. [passage omitted]

Everyone agrees that a firm idea about the shape of the press should be the starting point of the plans to abolish the RSW. But there is a broader aspect of this problem—what role does the press have to play in the construction of democracy today?

I am convinced that the press should also encourage the formation of new political programs, and thus accelerate the coagulation of a new political map of Poland. Selling off a few titles should encourage this.

We in the commission believe our supreme goal is to create the right conditions for a modern press market. That means privatization, creating incentives for publishers with large capital to enter business, and inviting Western investors to the Polish market. It also involves creating new press institutions such as a publishing consortium. At the same time, it is necessary to protect what I would call the substance of the Polish press, including titles that are important for Polish culture. [passage omitted]

Unfortunately, despite exhaustive information and permanent contacts with journalists associations, trade unions, and the Culture Commission, the RSW Liquidation Commission has not had any feedback on the subject of its press proposals, nor on the subject of such important issues as the presence of Western publishers in Poland, the influence of new social forces on the post-communist press, and the future press itself. This is an entire package of sensitive and difficult issues. It would be very useful for us in the commission to have moral support, especially now that it is high time to translate ideas into concrete legal and economic solutions. [passage omitted]

Solidarity Body on Delay With RSW Liquidation

AU0111112490 Gdansk TYGODNIK GDANSKI in Polish 28 Oct 90 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Statement by the Presidium of the Gdansk Chapter"]

[Text] The lengthy process of abolishing the Workers Publishing Cooperative [RSW] is arousing our concern. One year after the "Solidarity"-inspired government took office, the question of ownership of a series of press titles formerly under the control of the party-state monopoly has still not been settled. There has been no rational explanation of why "Solidarity," the driving force for change, still does not have any daily paper and is unable to satisfy in a legitimate way its justified needs concerning social communication. Now that the RSW Liquidation Commission has presented the government with its plan to abolish the RSW, we demand immediate decisions permitting us to put in a bid for DZIENNIK BALTYCKI in a manner foreseen in the law.

Gdansk, 22 October 1990.

Solidarity Official Explains Reason for Quitting

AU3110084890 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 23 Oct 90 p 10

[Andrzej Tomczak report: "I Resign From Solidarity"]

[Text] "I began to consider leaving 'Solidarity' during the last meeting of the National Commission, which voted for Lech Walesa as the union candidate and effectively turned 'Solidarity' into Walesa's personal election committee," says Roman Traczyk, member of the "Solidarity" National Commission and of the Presidium of the union's Lower Silesian Chapter. "We knew for a long time that this would happen, for it is not without reason that the Presidium postponed the original meeting. The very way in which the Presidium resolved to postpone it, and the fact that this motion was totally absent from the agenda that had been sent out earlier, is objectionable. The debate, actually a Walesa news conference, at which Lech Kaczynski presented the motion at a suitable time, did not have much in common with democracy.

"The rest of the meeting was no less of a shock. A lot of the participants were angry with me for suggesting a vote by secret ballot. Someone also suggested that the vote be secret, but with the name of the voter appearing on each ballot paper. Later, many people did write their names on the ballot papers when voting 'yes.' The 'hunt for traitors' began after lunch.

"But that is not the only thing that is making me resign. I have had my doubts about the way in which various matters have been settled, especially one very important matter for the National Commission. One example is the latest contacts with the Center of Research Work and Education at the University of California at Berkeley. This institute offered training to 'Solidarity' unionists. Representing the National Commission, and accompanied by a lawyer from Wroclaw University, I was supposed to discuss and select the training topics that suit our situation. This was a very valuable initiative, especially because the Americans were keen on covering nearly all the expenses.

"A condition for this deal was the signing of a letter of intent by us. The Americans insisted on this letter being signed by Walesa, Deputy Chairman Lech Kaczynski, and the head of education of 'Solidarity.' But it proved impossible to get in touch with the National Commission Presidium—they were never to be found. Later it transpired that the head of education's chief doubt was whether the future U.S. signatories were serious enough for Lech Walesa and Lech Kaczynski to sign their names on the same document as they. He also wondered if perhaps the president of a country should sign any bilateral agreement with 'Solidarity.'

"But it would be a lie to say that we never did anything for the union. Six months of 'Solidarity' work is not enough. The effects of this work may not be visible until 1991. There is still a lot to do—for example changing the union's structure, which is unique to "Solidarity." The present structure dates from 1980, so that 'Solidarity' could be the Communist Party's opposite number, a political adversary and employer. Today we should gradually adopt branch industrial structures.

"But we in the National Commission have stopped discussing trade union issues lately. A typical meeting begins with a talk with Walesa, who disappears one hour

later, after which we discuss such things as removing the 'Solidarity' logo from GAZETA WYBORCZA.

"It is difficult to be in a union that possesses such a firm political stance. I support Walesa as union chairman, but not as a president, and I cannot accept the decisions of the national authorities. Either I will torpedo these decisions, or I will surrender to them despite myself. I see no way out. I fear the union will occupy itself with the presidential campaign today and the parliamentary campaign tomorrow, and will never have time to deal with its own matters."

Sejm Passes Telecommunications Bill 25 Oct

AU3110145890 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 27-28 Oct 90 p 2

["U.S."-signed report: "No Postal, Radio and Television Monopoly"]

[Text] The law on telecommunications abolishes the state monopoly on telecommunications and postal services as well as that on television and radio broadcasting.

Following the Thursday [25 October] debate, the Sejm passed the communications bill on Friday.

The Polish Post, Telegraph, and Telephone monopoly will be replaced by the state enterprise Polish post office and by the Polish telephone joint-stock company.

Companies, telecommunications networks, and radio and television stations independent of the state can be formed once they have obtained permits from the communications minister.

The state monopoly on international telecommunications services has been preserved (in accordance with World Bank recommendations). Services linking towns and cities can only be provided by Polish companies or joint ventures with a foreign capital share that does not exceed 49 percent of the founding capital or total stock.

Permits for the use of radio or televisions transmitters can only be obtained by Polish companies or joint ventures in which the foreign capital share does not exceed 33 percent of the founding capital or the total stock.

This restriction was criticized by Barbara Labuda (Citizens Parliamentary Club [OKP]), who said that the restriction limiting the foreign capital share to 33 percent contained in the deputies bill would discourage foreign radio and television companies. She argued that a 49-percent foreign capital share would still guarantee us control over the use of radio and television transmitters.

The law envisages the distribution of radio and television frequencies by competitive tender. It is very likely that this will happen, because, as Communications Minister Jerzy Slezak said, the ministry had received a hundred offers, and there can only be six to seven television stations and up to 14 radio stations in Poland (for technical reasons).

The law provides allows owners of telecommunications networks to determine the charges levied for services themselves, but the charges cannot exceeded the levels set by the communications minister. This will make it possible to accelerate the modernization of our telecommunications system.

Council of Ministers Holds Meeting on Foreign Aid

LD3110214290 Warsaw PAP in English 1912 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 31—The Council of Ministers met here today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki to discuss the topics which the cabinet could not review due to the lack of time during the session last Monday.

One of the topics was the way of using the foreign aid to Poland. The document, accepted by the Council of Ministers, concerns the priority directions of the use of foreign assistance and is of a preliminary and general character. It is to be the basis for further negotiations with the donors conducted by Minister Witold Trzeciakowski who is the chief coordinator of the foreign aid.

In the second half of the session the cabinet adopted a draft law on notary publics who in conditions of the great pace of economic changes are to ensure prompt civil-legal services.

President Jaruzelski Refuses To Sign Land Bill

Commentary Examines Ramifications

AU3010161290 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 25 Oct 90 p 1

[Piotr Aleksandrowicz commentary: "A Fateful Signal"]

[Text] The president has refused to sign the bill that allows sales of state- and council-owned real estate to foreigners. The international community has received a clear signal that Poland is extremely cautious of the presence of foreign capital and corporations in Poland. It is a strong signal, because—one can say—it comes without any ulterior motive. Even if the president had signed the bill, such sales of land would have still required the approval of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. On the other hand, we still have the regulations that permit the sales of privately owned land, but this too requires the approval of the ministry. The presidential veto only goes to show that the groups that are against any permanent links with foreign capital for reasons of—as they call it—national interest, are strong and according to the president, must be consulted.

For a world that is beginning to integrate ever faster, a world of multinational corporations, common markets, disappearing borders, transnational investments, and the global village, this signal comes direct from the museum of nationalism. Several days ago we published an article containing the research carried out by Merril Lynch, a leading U.S. bank, which showed that Poland

came a long way behind East Germany, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia from the point of view of attractiveness of investment for foreign capital. One of the fundamental reasons for this is a perceived Polish reluctance and reserve towards foreigners and foreign capital. The presidential veto, his first veto during his period in office, only confirms the accuracy of that analysis.

During Tuesday's meeting at the Warsaw offices of the World Bank the question debated was: How to attract private capital to Poland? John Hume, the bank's permanent representative in Warsaw, said that what was needed was a clear signal from the Polish Government showing that the unfortunate statements of some politicians, the legislative uncertainty, the badly interpreted provision in the privatization law (requiring consent every time it is intended to acquire more than 10 percent of shares in an enterprise that is being privatized), is not characteristic of Polish policy and this was not the policy's ultimate intention. Next day, we heard the news of the president's refusal to sign the bill and it is difficult to imagine a less fortunate clash of circumstances.

During the last few days, the foreign businessman and financier has received the following signals from Poland: A Sejm deputy publicly demanding that the proposed Polish port should be built with Polish capital alone and without the participation of foreign capital participation and criticizing the government of allowing various foreign firms to become involved in the project. Later, in an interview the deputy telecommunications minister says: "I fear that the enterprises that have foreign capital participation stand the best chance of getting contracts."

The businessman hears all this and might recall that the bill that allows the sale of land to foreign capital was preceded by stormy sessions in the Sejm, that the Senate's intervention became necessary, and that at the bottom of the president's refusal was a motion by 70 deputies demanding that the president veto the bill. He may also recall the decision of the newly elected local authorities which informed the serious foreign investor that they did not feel bound by the decisions of their predecessors and that the investor should feel free to dismantle what he had constructed. Finally, he may have heard of the fact that there is a groundswell of pressure to introduce protective tarifs into various sectors in order to squeeze out foreign manufacturers from the Polish economy and that these calls are being supported by some ministerial advisers.

Our guest, businessman, and financier will soon realize that such statements cannot be explained by primitive nationalism, xenophobia, or ignorance, because they emanate from politicians, members of the wider circle of power in Poland.

If this train of thought dominates our political life we can expect that gradually even the most tentative and careful attempts at direct investment in Poland, attempts to transfer capital and technology, will die out. The world knows that modernity means capital and property links that reach far beyond national borders, and the person who attempts to tear them apart, cut, or block them is passing a sentence of banishment on himself from the community of nations that are seek to develop their economies and raise their standard of living. If this were to happen, the world will look at Poland with pity and will simply shrug its shoulders. It will not waste its time on our curious country.

Spokesman Refutes Veto Criticism

AU3010162190 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA Economy and Law Section in Polish 26 Oct p 1

[Letter by presidential press spokesman Wlodzimierz Lozinski: "To the Editor—'A Fateful Signal'"]

[Text] The article by Piotr Aleksandrowicz entitled: "A Fateful Signal," which appeared in RZECZPOSPOLITA on 25 October, betrays the author's unfamiliarity with the reasons behind the presidential veto of the land management bill.

There would have been no "Fateful Signal" had Piotr Aleksandrowicz bothered to find out that the president does not question the whole bill, but only the part of it that touches on the state's control over the principles that are to govern transactions in real estate. In his letter to the Sejm marshal, Wojciech Jaruzelski writes "in the changing conditions in which the economy has to function (land in Poland) is becoming a commodity, but this fact does not absolve the state from giving it adequate protection." Further on, the president proposes to "amplify the bill by introducing a provision that will make it obligatory on the part of the government or the minister of internal affairs to inform the Sejm of state- and local council-owned land sold to foreigners over the preceding year and land owned by private individuals and legal entities."

I do not know in which section of the president's letter Mr. Aleksandrowicz finds the conditions or other obstructions that will have an adverse effect on the flow of foreign capital to Poland or the implication that trade in real estate is a vital factor of a freely functioning market economy. The president's suggestions do not contain a single word that would imply this.

In fact the truth is totally different. In the many discussions that President Wojciech Jaruzelski has held with representatives of foreign states, governments, as well as big business, he has always encouraged economic cooperation with Poland and even suggested some areas for specific foreign investment in Poland. I am not aware of a single case of a foreign entrepreneur or politician with whom the president has spoken, complaining to the president of encountering in Poland insufficient appreciation of the principles applicable to a modern economy and its international ramifications. It is true, however, that we do see examples of poorly drafted legislation and over bureaucratic ways of handling foreign enquiries. I do not think that the insistence on well drafted legislation and institution of government or parliamentary

controls for its implementation could have the slightest negative effect on the way that foreign capital functions. Polish and foreign entrepreneurs are only concerned about one thing, namely, unambiguous legislation and provisions that regulate their economic activity.

Additionally, any future surge of public emotion in the matter of real estate sales to foreigners could lead to complications in the quite legitimate real estate transactions and discourage foreign investors. That is why letting the public see that the Sejm is keeping a watchful eye over these matters makes the whole issue transparent and future activity in this sector will then only be judged on its merits.

In suggesting amendments to the bill, the president thinks that the state should not and cannot divest itself of the proper controls over real estate transactions, but this does not mean that this conflicts with the need for active and rational economic cooperation with foreign partners.

Regrettably, Mr. Aleksandrowicz does not mention these vital prerequisites that are behind the reservations and suggestions expressed by the president.

Thus, the article written by Piotr Aleksandrowicz is itself a false alarm signal that could easily lead to misunderstandings and this will not be to the advantage of the economic interests of our country.

Walesa Invited to Soviet Embassy Meeting

LD3110212490 Warsaw PAP in English 2008 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Gdansk, Oct. 31—Soviet General Consul here Vadim Mustky conveyed a letter from Soviet Ambassador in Poland Yuriy Kashlev to Lech Walesa today.

The Soviet ambassador invites Walesa to a meeting at the Soviet Embassy to mark the Soviet state holiday, writing that the meeting "could be used to establish personal contacts between us in the interests of well developing Polish-Soviet relations."

Polish-German Border Talks Continue in Warsaw

Minister Says Treaty 'Almost Complete'

LD3010213890 Hamburg DPA in German 2009 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw (DPA)—At the German-Polish negotiations in Warsaw on Tuesday, broad agreement was apparently reached on the border treaty. After his talks with political department head Dieter Kastrup in the Bonn Foreign Office, Polish Foreign Minister Krysztof Skubiszewski said in the evening: "The treaty confirming the Oder-Neisse [Odra-Nysa] border is almost complete. This is a result of today's talks." Some points still have to be cleared up. In addition, the negotiating results achieved by the delegations still have to be confirmed by the foreign ministers.

The timing of the negotiations and of the signing of this treaty and of the planned treaty on cooperation and good-neighborliness will be the subject of the 8 November talks between Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. This Wednesday Kastrup and his Polish interlocutor, Jerzy Sulek, will be talking about the broad outlines of this treaty.

Skubiszewski hinted that Poland is flexible about the issue of the joint signing and ratification of both treaties demanded by the German side. This depends on the tempo of the negotiations. Elections are in the offing in both countries. In the Polish view, the treaty on the confirmation of the border should be completed as soon as possible. "We are near to this goal." Both treaties are dependent opon each other, but one cannot deny a certain political connection.

This political connection was stressed above all by the German side. He sees this somewhat differently, Skubiszewski went on to say. The border issue was already resolved in the Moscow treaty of 12 September.

Skubiszewski Comments on Talks

LD3110015390 Warsaw PAP in English 2205 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 30—"I think that the discussion on when the border confirmation treaty and the one on cooperation should be initialled and whether to do it at the same time does not take into account the factor of negotiations' pace," Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski told reporters today in the wake of the first day of the Polish-German negotiations.

"If the pace is good concerning a treaty on cooperation and good-neighbourly relations, there will be no problem which one to sign first," he said.

The minister said that the two delegations agreed on the main points of the border confirmation treaty though there were issues for further discussion. "I cannot say that the text of the treaty was agreed on on Tuesday though the basic assumptions were," he said.

Skubiszewski stated that it was hard to foresee the course of proceedings after a few hours of talks. He said that the calendar of the negotiations and the approval of the two treaties would be the subject of talks between the Polish prime minister and the federal chancellor. He said he was convinced that the German side would be as flexible as the Polish one was.

Negotiators Reach Agreement

LD3110154590 Hamburg DPA in German 1453 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Warsaw (DPA)—The Polish and German negotiators reached agreement today on the draft border treaty. The head of the German delegation, Dieter Kastrup from the Foreign Ministry, told journalists in Warsaw after the talks that this draft will now be passed

on to the governments. The discussion in this first round of negotiations of the second treaty, on cooperation and good- neighbourliness, made it possible to start elaborating a specific draft. The talks will be continued in Bonn on 26 and 27 November. [passage omitted]

Participants Agree on Draft Treaty

LD3110183490 Warsaw PAP in English 1719 GMT 31 Oct 90

["Communique on Polish-German Talks"—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 31—The first round of official negotiations between delegations of the Republic of Poland and the Federal Republic of Germany was held here October 30-31.

Both sides negotiated a treaty between the Republic of Poland and the Federal Republic of Germany on confirming the Polish-German border existing between them and a treaty on cooperation and good-neigbourliness.

Participants in the first round of negotiations agreed upon the text of a draft border treaty to be submitted to both governments. The structure of a treaty on cooperation and good-neighbourliness was discussed profoundly. A separate decision will be made on initialling, signing and ratifying both treaties.

Spokesman Assesses Results

LD3110165690 Hamburg DPA in German 1611 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw (DPA)—The spokesman of the Polish Foreign Ministry, Wladyslaw Klaczynski, assessed the results of the first round of the treaty negotiations between Poland and Germany on Wednesday as a "success." In an interview with DPA, he said in Warsaw that there was success in the very first meeting about the treaty text on reaching agreement about the confirmation of the frontier between Poland and Germany. From the Polish point of view, this treaty is ready for initialling.

It was also a success in that they were able to discuss the "structure" of the planned treaty on cooperation and good-neighborliness. On the issue of the German minority in Poland, both sides stated their point of view. It will be welcomed in Poland if Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki agree at their meeting on 8 November in Frankfurt/Oder about the timing of signing and ratification.

Poland, South Africa To Open Interest Sections

LD3010223390 Warsaw PAP in English 1949 GMT 30 Oct 90

[Correspondent Andrzej Rayzacher report]

[Text] Vienna, Oct. 30—Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Poland and Republic of South Africa [RSA] Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Roelf Frederik Botha have agreed by way of exchange of letters to open interest sections in both countries.

The agreement is an important step towards the future normalisation of relations between both states.

In making the above decision the Polish and South African Governments were guided by a will to bring closer both states and nations as well as by a drive to develop mutually beneficial cooperation.

After a ceremony of signing the documents, Polish Foreign Vice Minister Jan Majewski said that Poland's assumption was that in the light of the changes taking place in the world and especially in the RSA aimed at democratisation and respecting human rights, the lack of relations with such an important African country would not be normal.

"Moreover, there lives a large group of Poles in the RSA and it is their wish to have a proper representation of our country in Pretoria. Taking into account these two factors, we have ocnsidered it to be appropriate to take a step towards the normalisation of mutual relations," Vice Minister Majewski said.

Soviet Union Resumes Electric Power Supply

AU3110152290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1320 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—Following discussions of the Romanian Electric Energy Department with the Soviet party, the latter acknowledged the possibility to put back into operation the 750 KW line supplying Isaccea station. So, on October 30, at 11 p.m., the Soviets resumed electric power supply to Romania, according to Mr. Tiberiu Cimpureanu, under secretary of state at the Electric Energy Department.

The press already informed that the interruption had occurred due to a breakdown. It affected two counties in Romania.

Contract Signed With Castrol Oil Company

AU3110124190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1120 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—Today at 12,00, at the Bucharest "Intercontinental" Hotel, Mr. Laurence Urquart, chairman of 'Castrol' concern, Mr. Johnson Clark, managing director of Burmah-Castrol, Mr. Walter Christian, general director of Burmah-Castrol Deutschland, joined by Mr. Grigorescu, general director of the Pitesti Oil Refinery, and Mr. Stanciu, the refinery manager, signed a memorandum understanding, thus beginning a "real partnership", as one of the participants said.

Fota Considers South Africa Visit 'Fruitful'

AU3110151890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1315 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—"Our visit to the Republic of South Africa was particularly fruitful," stated Mr. Constantin Fota, minister of trade and tourism, "first of all because we signed a commercial agreement stipulating a number of provisions likely to widely develop trade exchanges and economic cooperation between the two countries." The Romanian minister next referred to the mutual granting of the most favoured nation clause by Romania and South Africa, respectively. The agreement also stipulates a joint identification of financial solutions able to support a greater exchange of commodities between the two countries, as well as tourist exchanges and cooperation activities between companies and businessmen in the two countries.

For the implementation of the agreement joint commissions will be set up for the purpose to periodically examine, in Romania and in South Africa, what action must be further taken to ensure a wide economic collaboration.

"We are greatly interested in a number of import items," the Romanian minister added, "such as coal, iron ore, non-ferrous metal ores, cotton, citric produce, leather and a wide range of raw materials which are important for our economy. There are high, I should say exceptional quality products, and that includes such raw materials as iron-rich ore badly needed by our steel industry. There are also products of the highest quality standard.

"As for the export," the minister said, "we are pleased to notice our two economies are complementary which makes it possible for us to sell various important products for our economic activity, such as tractors, machine-tools, bearings, various chemicals. Mention should be made of several actions of close cooperation between Romanian and South African economic agents, for example installing an 'Aro' assembly line in the Republic of South Africa and the possibility to build in Romania an integrated agricultural plant that would manufacture high quality cigarettes or poultry meat products, as well as building a 250-bed hospital for cardio-vascular diseases, a field in which the Republic of South Africa is known for its pioneering achievements."

UNDP To Assist With 1992 Population Census

AU3110212090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1838 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—A protocol was signed in Bucharest on Wednesday, October 31, between the National Board of Statistics (NBS) for Romania's Government, and the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] Fund for Population Activities, according to which the latter offers to back Romania's Government in the people and dwelling census to be taken in January 1992.

The protocol was signed for the Romanian party by Petru Pepelea, chairman of the National Board of Statistics, and for UNDP by Ottorino Jannone, permanent representative of that body to Bucharest.

"It's an honour for me to have the opportunity to point to the fruitful cooperation we have had of late with the United Nations bodies, the United Nations Fund for Population Activities in particular, as regards the United Nations backing Romania in taking the forthcoming census," said Petru Pepelea after having signed the protocol. According to the protocol provisions, Romania will benefit of UN assistance in training experts, of technical and documentary assistance, and of up-to-date computers for rapid data processing. "Now, when Romania is taking its first but firm steps on the way to democracy, to building up its national economy according to unitary programs consistently promoting the principles of efficiency, quality and competitiveness, to the mechanisms proper to the market economy, the act signed today", stressed the speaker, "is apt to show, and we, as experts, very well realize it, the contributions of Romanian statistics in this comprehensive process."

In his turn, Ottorino Jannone said: "In fact this project has become operative even before having been signed as some time ago experts of Romania's National Board of

Statistics initiated talks with specialists from a number of European countries, seeking the methodology of people and dwelling census that fits the conditions in your country. In my opinion, NBS will act as the government's executive body, and the methodology to be adopted will be the one used in other West European countries, as Romania comes close to that part of Europe now. The UNDP will contribute with 782,000 U.S. dollars to the project, whose main targets are: improving the professional competence of the NBS staff by granting 50 scholarships for study travels and courses at home; improvement of the NBS capability of dealing with statistics during and after the census (UNDP will provide 150 modern computers, 470,000 U.S. dollars worth); the circulation of standard displays of final data including the number of the population, the socio-professional distribution and the dwelling conditions. Equipped as such, Romania will be able to draw in future all kinds of socio-economic statistics it needs."

Deputies' Assembly Continues Session 31 Oct

AU3110194090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1901 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—The Assembly of Deputies continued its works in standing commissions on October 31. The debates covered a number of normative acts that are to be discussed by the two chambers in plenum.

The commission on central and local administration, urban and physical planning, as well as the legal commission analyzed the bills of organization and functioning of the government and the ministries. Amendments were proposed especially for the improvement of the executive activity. The commissions were also presented the bill of public finance, previously analyzed by the budget and finance commission.

The bill of land stock, one of the most important normative acts now under the Parliament's debate, was in the focus of the agricultural commission, that introduced new details and clarifications before submitting it to the parliamentarians in plenum.

The other standing commissions of the Assembly of Deputies discussed also other bills of outstanding importance regarding mainly the proper operation of the market economy, of the whole activity for the democratization of the Romanian society.

FSN on Transylvanian Liberation Anniversary

AU3110111890 Bucharest AZI in Romanian 25 Oct 90 p 1

[National Salvation Front Directing Council-signed "Communique"]

[Text] Today, 25 October 1990, the National Salvation Front [FSN] Directing Council stands by the side of the Romanian Army and honors the memory of the Romanian soldiers who fell in the battle for the liberation of the northern part of Transylvania. We think of all those who sacrificed their lives to return the last spot of land to us, which had been torn away from the body of our country through the Vienna Diktat. Likewise, we feel proud of and express our gratitude to all those Romanian soldiers who sacrificed their lives and fell in the battles that were fought for the liberation of Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Today, when Eastern European countries have resolutely begun their progress on the road of democratizing their political, economic, and social life, the bravery of the Romanian soldiers has a symbolic value. This is the symbol of courage and generosity on which the Romanians have based their entire millennia-old existence.

The FSN Directing Council

Iliescu Receives Revolution Commemoration Group

AU3110194290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1846 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—President Ion Iliescu met on October 31 with the steering committee of the Association for Praising the Revolution.

They presented to the president the association's preoccupations, activity and targets that differ from those of other similar organizations. Likewise, a package of problems was presented that waited for solution in view of praising the revolution heroes and aiding the December martyrs' close relatives. In that context, the preoccupation for raising the descendants' pensions was also mentioned. Likewise, it was shown that the association's priorities also included the fast completion of the works at the Cemetery of the Revolution Heroes and the consecration of the foundation of the church there.

President Ion Iliescu showed that a unitary program was intended to be worked out at a national level for the praising of the December 1989 martyrs and heroes and for marking one year since the revolution.

* Vrancea Democratic Alliance Established

91BA0032B Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 5 Oct 90 p 5

["Proclamation-Platform of the Vrancea Democratic Antitotalitarian Alliance"]

[Text] As a social system, communism revealed itself not only utopic, but also profoundly inhuman and anti-Christian.

The Revolution of December 1989 was not directed only against Ceausescu, but primarily against communism and totalitarianism. Now, nine months after the Revolution, we note that the ideals proclaimed then are increasingly restricted and curtailed and that serious social conflicts are being created and perpetuated by the so-called "emanated" new power, such as the conflict

between intellectuals, workers, and students; party conflicts brought about by fake "coups d'etat" that horrified the world and isolated our country; ethnic conflicts; religious conflicts, etc.

The separation of the legislative, executive, and judicial powers in the state has become an illusion, because the Parliament, the Government, and the judicial apparatus are totally subservient to the new political power.

The laws promulgated so far leave ample room for dictatorial maneuver; such was the case with Law No. 8/1990, under which mayors and prefects are appointed rather than elected, and public demonstrations are restricted.

In Vrancea County, the economy—like the entire national economy—has been brought to a halt, because the new cryptocommunist power is not interested in ensuring supplies for the various economic units and in effecting the privatization of consumer goods production and services, but in winning elections and holding on to the power, for which purpose it made discriminatory and inequitable concessions for various categories of workers and considerably restricted productive private initiatives.

The peasantry is still in servitude to the agricultural production cooperatives, the present "landowner" that makes individual plots of land depend on a new clique.

In view of these profoundly harmful situations, all the democratic and antitotalitarian forces in our county, regardless of profession or trade, faith, or ethnic origin, must form a democratic alliance in the interests of the county and of our common fatherland, and for the purpose of achieving the following goals:

1. National unity and integrity.

2. Real democracy throughout our social and political life, by faithfully observing the human rights stipulated in international conventions to which Romania is a party.

3. Recognition and effective implementation of the political, social, and cultural rights of the national minorities, in keeping with the Universal Human Rights Declaration and the international treaties and act to which our country is a party.

4. The right of every social category to form completely free and independent professional organizations and to oppose attempts to revive the UGSR [General Union of Romanian Trade Unions] structures and trade union controls.

5. De facto disbanding of the old securitate and preempting the utilization of similar bodies to secure party, group, or personal interests.

6. Establishment of a legal framework of political pluralism, within which the opposition can be a loyal partner for dialogue and a means of social control to ensure strict observance of the law, as well as an alternative source of a program and government.

7. Real separation of powers in the state. Restoring the honor and rights of the Army as the defender of the country, and ensuring that the Army does not become subservient to any party, political group, or person.

8. Establishing national and local democratic institutions designed to represent and promote the authentic spiritual values of our community.

9. Radical economic reorientation toward a market economy made profitable through major investments of domestic and foreign capital, for which purpose it is absolutely necessary to regain the trust of the major economic powers in the world.

10. Return the land to the peasants and peasant associations and allocate land to those who have none, simultaneously with easy financial terms so that they can purchase equipment and expert advise.

Ensure old age pensions for the peasants who worked in agricultural production cooperatives, even after their dismantling.

11. Speedy reintegration into Europe through real democratization of the civil society, and respect for and promotion of European spiritual values.

12. Eliminate hatred, lies, and hostility from society and rebuild society and social relations upon the foundation of truty, Christian love, and social harmony.

Our cause is the cause of the country, of truth, freedom, love, and human dignity.

The founding parties and groups of this alliance appeal to other political groups, associations, leagues, sociaties, and independent personalities in Vrancea County to join us.

[signed] National Christian-Democratic Peasant Party
National Liberal Party
Association of Former Political Prisoners
Christian Democratic Party
Republican Party
Orfeu Youth Organization

Senate Examines Price Liberalization Methods

AU3110194390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1849 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—The Senate debated in plenum on October 31 and passed the bill of employment according to competences in the state institutions and administration bodies.

The new law abrogates the legal regulations that conditions the holding of managerial, executive or any other offices, irrespective of the domain of activity, upon the length of service or specialty length of service. The new

provisions do not apply to the offices that have professional grades in justice, Procurator's Office, health care and education, for which the criteria of employment and promotion are established under the respective professional statutes.

Also, the senate validated the report of the standing bureaux of the Senate and Assembly of Deputies on the conciliation of the disagreements on the bill of administrative disputes.

On questioning time, Senator Constantin Balcon requested the government to present in the Senate a detailed report on the methods of price liberalization that would come into force tomorrow, November 1, the categories of commodities subject to liberalization, the assessment of the consequences for the citizens' budgets. In that connection, Senator Balcon proposed that the Senate endorse a decision of delay of the government's program of passage to the enforcement of the announced measures until they are discussed in the Senate. At the close of the session, the Senate did not discuss and did not endorse a decision pursuant to the above-mentioned proposal.

Soon after the session in plenum concluded, a meeting of the standing bureaux of the two chambers started at the Senate, participated in by Prime Minister Roman and other ministers.

Roman Explains Price Liberalization Policies

AU3110193990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1908 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman made some points on the national TV station on the price liberalization due as of November 1, 1990.

The Romanian premier highlighted the necessity of that measure for the passage to the market economy and the renunciation of the stiff centralized planning. Also, he recognized that the government ought to have done more in order to explain the multiple aspects of the respective measure.

Trade Union Protests Price Liberalization Bill

AU3110112190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0922 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—The "Fratia" free trade unions confederation assesses in a communique sent to the press that the recent draft resolution concerning price liberalization is actually a price rise and not a liberalization on the demand-and-offer principle which will eventually lead to the worsening of the living standard of the employees and of other social categories.

Through the bills it tables to Parliament Romania's government tries to dissolve the union movement, drastically limiting the right to union association, the modalities of union protest, the right of negotiation of employees.

The demonstration staged on 30 October 1990 by the Drivers Union the Bucharest Branch, supported by "Fratia" is a warning, specifies the communique stressing that the government will have to accept that trade unions are a reality.

12 Central Industrial Departments Dissolved

AU3110194290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1830 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—The Ministry of Resources and Industry has speeded up the measures for reorganising the national economy, in keeping with the principles of the reform and with the laws recently issued. Along this line, twelve central industrial departments were dissolved by governmental decisions, in step with turning state-run economic units into commercial companies. The first 35 commercial companies were set up by governmental decisions, by re-organising state-run economic units according to law 15/1990, which will be followed by another 110 companies.

Program Claims Securitate Sided With Revolution

AU3110171590

[Editorial Report] Bucharest Television Service in Romanian at 1915 GMT on 22 October carries a 65-minute long program entitled "The Truth About the Former Securitate Troops." At the beginning the moderator introduces journalist Constantin Tugui from the "Dacia" Public Opinion Poll Office, who says that he has made a documentary film about the former Securitate troops, "the first of an eight-part serial." He did so with the aim of presenting—"without prejudices and cliches"—the "truth about those who participated in the December revolution, alongside the revolutionary forces or against them." He denies in advance that the film amounts to a "rehabilitation of the former Securitate." After this brief introduction, Tugui's film "Eyewitnesses About the Former Securitate" is presented.

The film begins with Tugui interviewing a history teacher from Sibiu, Lupu Corvin, who presents his recollections of what happened on 22 December in the city. He says that he lived near the Ministry of Interior Inspectorate—the former Securitate—so he can attest to the "exceptional behavior" of the Securitate troops who were guarding the Securitate headquarters. The interviewee does not agree with those who try to "compromise" the former Securitate troops, which were comprised of "youngsters called up for regular military service." He adds that many people have a "distorted picture" of the former Securitate troops—"the current Gendarmerie troops"—who fulfilled, and are fulfilling the important task of guarding vital socioeconomic units and institutions. To the question, whether he believes in the "existence of terrorists" during the revolution, Corvin answers in the affirmative, but adds that he does "not know who they were," certainly "not the Securitate troops."

Other eyewitnesses from Sibiu, Bacau, Timisoara, Cluj-Napoca, and Constanta are then introduced. They each

present their views on the Securitate, all of which are favorable. They say the Securitate behaved "absolutely correctly" during the December revolution and refer to the troops as "children" and "regular recruits." One eyewitness even goes so far as to say that "bloodshed was prevented thanks to the fact that the Securitate troops sided with the revolutionists."

The report then moves back to Bucharest, with Tugui interviewing General Gheorghe Voinea, state secretary at the Ministry of National Defense, who speaks of "close cooperation" between his troops and the troops of the Ministry of Interior during the revolution, as the sacred task of all military men is to "defend their forefathers' land."

Following the end of the film, Tugui explains that this first "episode" is not about the Securitate agents, but about the "regular Securitate troops" and "their role during the revolution." He explains that in the following sequels he will try to elucidate other aspects of the entire Securitate apparatus, but adds that the continuation of the serial is "not certain," as he needs the "approval of the television" as well as "technical assistance" to produce further episodes.

Tugui then presents a 10-minute report on a roundtable discussion held with some 32 journalists from the central press and the provinces after they saw the film. This report features congratulatory remarks made toward Tugui for his idea to make the film and praise for his brave attempt to tell the truth.

[On 23 October, Bucharest Television Service in Romanian at 1800 GMT on its "Current Events" program carries an announcement that Television President Razvan Theodorescu decided to "stop the broadcasting of further parts of this series."]

Police Clash With Rioters in Bucharest

AU3110214990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2040 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—The press office of the Police Department of Bucharest City has released a communique showing that a traffic police car running in a Bucharest high road to investigate the case of a stolen and abandoned car on October 31, 1990, noticed that a van with a fake registration number was seriously endangering the road traffic by the way it was driven.

As the police tried to stop the van and take legal steps against the driver, the latter struck on the run the police car trying thus to avoid the check up.

After repeatedly ordering the driver to stop, the police fired, aiming at the tires.

Taking advantage of the traffic jam, the van driver got out of the van and incited the passers-by to halt the police car, saying that there were terrorists in it.

Riotous persons from the crowd toppled the police car and manhandled the three officers. And so they did to another police car that arrived there, stealing two pistols and the ammunition, talkie-walkies and other equipment of the police officers. The badly injured police officers were taken to the hospital. The pistols were retrieved, one on the spot and the other later on, from a group of gypsies in another district of the city.

The rioters continued to upset public order and quiet, blocking the traffic in the centre of the capital and shouting slogans against the government.

The police has taken steps to trace, apprehend and sue the van driver who vanished, and to deblock the traffic.

Curticeanu Heard in Former Nomenklatura Trial

AU3110112490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0930 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 31/10/1990—Just as the other defendants, Silviu Curticeanu rejected the charges on Tuesday [30 October] during his hearing.

He assessed that the trial was founded on a preconceived infraction, on preestablished facts their indexation being determined arbitrarily, not by reality but by recommendations made at a "certain level".

He also upheld that during the inquiry his psychic condition was altered by the manner in which it was conducted mentioning in that respect the circumstances in which he was arrested, the violation of non-guilty presumption and the right to defense.

He said that until the 17 December meeting of the Executive Political Committee he had no information regarding what had happened in Timisoara and that he could not form a correct image of the facts from what Ceausescu told on that occasion. He maintained that during neither of the two meetings of the Executive Political Committee, of 17 and 22 December, no decision had been made in connection with the repression of a movement with a revolutionary character, the measures ordered by Ceausescu in his capacity as supreme commander being not submitted to that political body for approval.

The defendant also asserted that no violent action after Ceausescu's departure was determined by any decision made by the former members of the Executive Political Committee as they adopted a passive attitude merely learning about the fall of the dictator.

New Serbian Economic Measures Explained

AU3110191090 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Oct 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "A Tax for Confederalists"]

[Text] Belgrade—The delegates of all three chambers of the Assembly of Serbia have adopted a package of laws as protection against attempts by some republics to impose an even more unfavorable position on Serbia and against the negative effects of the measures of the Federal Executive Council.

With an amendment to the Law on Trade, enterprises can again approve consumer loans for citizens but only for goods produced on the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

A new law has been adopted which envisages that a special turnover tax be paid on goods and services which are of specific origin. These are goods and services which come from enterprises and working people who are based on the territory of the republic, who do not meet the obligations which have been undertaken, or refuse to participate in implementing the policy of equal regional development, agricultural policy of interest for the whole country, or put Serbia into an unfair position in some other way. There will be a similar obligation, but in the form of a tax, for promoting firms and using business premises and construction sites.

Amendments to the Law on Social Price Control envisage that measures for directly controlling prices relate to all goods and services which are sold in the Republic of Serbia. The explanation for this regulation stresses that it frequently happens that the competent federal organs, and particularly the Federal Executive Council, take measures to directly control prices which crudely undermine the equality of economic entities and create disparities, which contributes to the relative backwardness of the Serbian economy, and, therefore, in the assessment of the Assembly, it is unacceptable to continue to maintain prices in certain areas solely under the jurisdiction of the federation.

A new law also introduces special duties for imported goods. It envisages that the republican government can also introduce other economic protection measures in the republic if the federation does not meet its obligations to Serbia.

The law on redirecting basic turnover tax on goods and services allows Serbia to keep those monies that are paid on its territory if the federation ignores the obligations it has to this republic. The social accounting service will be required to direct the monies produced by this tax to a special fund of the republic.

The delegates yesterday also adopted a law which authorizes the republic to take out financial and other loans abroad for the purpose of maintaining the present liquidity, production or ownership restructuring, or carrying out investment operations.

The Assembly of Serbia also adopted a law on the conditions for granting franchises to legal persons for the exploitation of exhaustible natural resources and a law on public enterprises in the power generating industry, the railroads, Post and Telecommunications, air transport, and radio and television. It rejected an amendment by JAT [Yugoslav airline] for air transport to be removed from the group of activities in which public enterprises have to be set up.

Before adopting these laws, the delegates adopted the original explanation of the provision of Article Two of the constitutional law on implementing the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia which establishes the right of republican organs to adopt documents to protect the interests of the republic, if the measures of the organs of the federation or some republics violate the equality of Serbia or threaten its interests without appropriate compensation.

Once such circumstances arise, there are no legal or other obstacles to these laws not being adopted, it was said at the session.

Pregl Comments on Assembly Decisions

AU0111102190 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 25 Oct 90 p 1

["V.E."-signed report: "Serbian Measures Have No Perspective"]

[Text] "What is involved is another move which is undermining the unified Yugoslav market. The events in the Serbian Assembly yesterday also show that an outcome of the Yugoslav political and constitutional crisis is going to come very quickly and that it is going to be radical. As regards the economic crisis, we have already made the most difficult decisions and are already on the right road; this is shown by the results of our reform that are recognized by the world. I cannot exactly predict the consequences of the Serbian Assembly's decision for the time being, because I have not seen the actual documents yet. However, I do not believe that the economy of any part of the country, including Serbia, could benefit from such restrictive measures. The federal government is planning to deregulate the economic system, which should give the economy the most freedom and independence. All measures contrary to this orientation are at variance with the natural inclination of an economy to produce as inexpensively as possible, so as to be able to earn as much as possible. This is why Serbian measures do not have any long-term perspective, something which also applies to all similar measures taken in Yugoslavia." This is what Zivko Pregl, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, said today while commenting on Serbian decisions.

New Laws Passed To Strengthen Measures

LD3110191990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1606 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—The Government of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia on Wednesday adopted five by-laws with a view to rendering more concrete the recent measures of the republican Assembly concerning protection of the republic's economy.

The regulations deal with apportionment of the basic sales tax on consumer credits, the anti-dumping procedure, obtaining attest and other proof of quality and servicing of imported goods, as well as taxes on putting up company signs, use of office space and building land.

The most recent moves, as set out on Wednesday, would not effect higher prices of imported goods and those from other Yugoslav republics, and would be in harmony with GATT. Their overall effect by the end of this year is estimated at one billion 160 million dinars (7 dinars to the Deutsche mark).

As regards anti-dumping measures, the procedure would be carried out via the federal government, so that Serbia would not on its own deal with international institutions.

It was noted at the Serbian Government session that the federation was fulfiling its obligations toward Serbia, as set out—by the trickle, so that it was assessed that conditions had been created to apply measures of protection.

To forestall possible objections that Serbia was in the forefront of Yugoslavia's confederalization and the downfall of the federal government, it was stressed that the taken measures were not of such nature as to institutionally disown the federation, as was the case of some other Yugoslav republics, but that Serbia's measures were unavoidable—to neutralize the negative effects of the federal government's wrong policy. The measures would remain in effect as long as such a policy was being implemented, it was noted at the Serbian Government session.

Serb Steps Against Slovenia Said Harmful to Both

AU3110214190 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 23 Oct 90 p 6

[Stojan Zitko commentary: "With Taxes Against Ideas"]

[Text] Serbia must protect itself from excessively expensive goods from Slovenia even if it means introducing customs duties (taxes) for such goods. This would be the view of certain ruling circles in Serbia which, judging from the supportive newspaper articles on this topic, are announcing significant changes in the republican politics for as early as today. These measures concern not only the federation, that is, the federal government, but it seems that they concern Slovenia and probably Croatia, at least as much. Approximately one year has passed since Serbian enterprises virtually severed their relations with the Slovene economy at the political request of their leadership, and the same is done now, albeit indirectly.

Probably nobody has made precise calculations of the economic damage caused by freezing economic relations between the republics, which are very much dependent from one another in the economic sense. As for the Slovenes, we also did not find it easy to survive economic blockade, although we did not think much about that, at least at the beginning. It is clear that a lot of goods from our republic travel to the others in Yugoslavia so if they get stuck somewhere, the consequences are then evident. It is certainly bad, however, if such short circuits are caused for political reasons. One could hear a lot about that last year when the Serbian Socialist Alliance (SAWP) of that time ordered its businessmen to sever economic links with Slovenes, because the Ljubljana meeting of "truth," so much announced at that time, had not been held. The two republics' economies had nothing to do with the meeting, but the ban affected them badly. It is possible that it affected the Serbian economy even worse, because there are no signs that with the lack of Slovene goods, the disorganized Serbian industry will be any quicker to develop, and Slovene goods nevertheless found some secret ways to get to Serbia. On the other hand, we in Slovenia dealt with the problem in a somehow simplified way, saying that we should now learn a lesson that we should increase our exports and get rid of such markets as soon as possible because, after all, they are paying badly and with a delay. However, many directors say that things are not so simple and that nobody can gain much from the politization of the matter.

All this is now being replayed under somewhat more complicated circumstances, and everything is completely politicized again. If we take several final thoughts in a commentary on that topic carried in the newspaper POLITIKA as an example, we immediately see where the announced measures against Slovenia can really be placed. What is certainly involved here are the different views in Yugoslavia on the country's future setup (federation, confederation....) Are these measures that the republican Executive Council should propose at today's session of the Republican Assembly perhaps meant as a warning to those who think differently? Namely, in this connection, POLITIKA very clearly says the following: The measures of the Republican Executive Council should above all be interpreted as defensive, as well as temporary until the decision is made about the future of the Yugoslav community. If Slovenia and Croatia fail to change their attitude that the federal state should be dismantled, it is then clear that these and not only these measures will definitely stop being temporary, because confederation is not an acceptable outcome for Serbia.

Because of such measures against Slovenia—for the time being primarily the introduction of special taxes on Slovene goods—the debates about the future of the state held so far suddenly seem to be superfluous. Coercive measures in the economic sphere will again bring nothing good to either side and, due to such shortsighted

(and politicized) policy, they will be even less of any use to those who started taking them. One should only find out now why Serbian enterprises are so enthusiastically ordering goods from Slovenia: Is it a timely preparation for bad times that are already known to them, or an attempt to impoverish the Slovene economy even more by not paying for its products. We are acquainted with both possibilities from the recent past.

'Unusual Altruism' of Serbian Measures Viewed

AU3110133790 Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE in Serbo-Croatian 25 Oct 90 p 1

[Branislav Boskov commentary: "Domestic Foreign Countries"]

[Text] "It is clear that Serbia, which has been using strong arguments to advocate a truly federal configuration (but not a unitarian state), cannot for economic reasons accept any confederal or asymmetric form of community in which it would be placed in an inferior position. Another reason for this rejection is that it cannot accept endeavors which would mean that those Serbian people who live in confederal states and who have made great sacrifices to contribute to the creation of their statehood would become ethnic minorities." These words of Stanko Radmilovic, president of the republican Executive Council of Serbia, could best explain the real motives behind the package of measures which the Assembly of Serbia adopted on Tuesday [23 October]. They also cause confusion, just like the moves which received the blessing of the republican Assembly.

Serbia has told the confederalists to think carefully about their orientation—and revise it—if they want the products of their economy to appear on the market of a sovereign state of Serbia which is part of a federation. While they are thinking, regulations will be in force which will to all intents and purposes put goods from abroad—that is to say, from outside Yugoslavia—in the same position as those which are produced by people in the republics suffering from the confederal virus, that is to say, if they are doing something that could threaten Serbia's interests. In fact, the protection of these interests is the reason for putting into practice the appropriate article of Serbia's Constitution. It is difficult to resist drawing a comparison with the decision by the Assembly of Slovenia which outlawed a number of federal laws because they were not in the interest of Slovenia, something that was in fact criticized so much by Serbia. By the way, it should be pointed out that the proposers of a confederation say that if it is not to their liking then separation will follow, just like the final—and undoubtedly worse for everyone—solution envisaged by the federalists. It seems that everyone agrees only on the fact that the final way out, that is separation, is possible!

It is becoming nearer with the decision on the introduction of special taxes or taxes on goods from, until recently, fraternal republics for the sake of protecting domestic production. The moves can be explained in the most varied ways, but it is difficult to see how they are based on economic arguments, if this really does involve a market model of economic operations. Higher taxes make goods more expensive, and therefore increase inflation, and could cause supplies to decrease. The steps that have been taken undoubtedly eat away at the so-called unified Yugoslav market and could serve as a shield for production which cannot cope with a market economy precisely because it has always been coddled and protected.

The difficulties of Serbia's economy are also indisputable, as well as the desire to overcome them as soon as possible. However, everyone else is not in much better circumstances either, but they are nevertheless endeavoring to behave according to the reform that has been constructed by Ante Markovic's Cabinet and supported by the SFRY Assembly, instead of undermining it in every way. Finally, it is not clear what kind of protection this is from other people's economic egoism if the defense mechanism rests on unreservedly defending "domestic" production from any competition, even competition from the foreign countries within Yugoslavia. This really is unusual altruism and concern for the citizen, whose standard of living was corroded by the crisis a long time ago and who has been promised price increases and favorable loans for the sake of protecting the interests of the economy, the republic, and therefore the citizen. It will not be easy to endure the burden of this protection.

Serbian Socialist Party Holds Electoral Meeting

LD3110220990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1911 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—The electoral conference of the Socialist Party of Serbia (former communists) for Belgrade was held today and it elected the chief committee.

Belgrade, as a constituency, is very important for the outcome of the elections in Serbia. The leading officials of the former League of Communists of Serbia came from Belgrade, which has nearly two million inhabitants.

The hitherto Belgrade party leader and secretary, Rados Smiljkovic and Snezana Aleksic, respectively, who had played an important role in bringing current Republic of Serbia Presidency President Slobodan Milosevic to the head of the League of Communists of Serbia three years ago, were not elected to the chief committee today.

Popular actor Velimir-Bata Zivojinovic, opera singer [word indistinct] Zubovic, economist Oskar Kovac, former federal government member, and Slobodan Vucetic, a politician known as a reformist, were elected to the chief committee with the largest number of votes.

The putting off of the election of the executive committee for Friday is linked by observers to the fact that the candidates known as reformists received the largest

number of votes today, whereas those on whom the city and republican leaderships had relied so far lost in the balloting.

Serbian Renewal Movement Charges Misuse of Funds

LD3110191290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1633 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—The Serbian Renewal Movement, one of the strongest opposition parties in the Republic of Serbia, today called on the federal government and Prime Minister Ante Markovic to publish figures about the expenditures of the Alliance of Reformist Forces of Yugoslavia.

In a letter sent to the federal government, the Serbian Renewal Movement requested that the federal government say whether its members are promoting the Alliance of Reformist Forces of Yugoslavia during "working hours" and who is paying the travel expenses made for the purpose of the promotion of that party.

The Serbian Renewal Movement today also brought criminal charges against the ruling Socialist Party of Serbia (former communists) for an "unlawful use of funds."

The Serbian Renewal Movement claims that of the 50 million dinars (roughtly 12 dinars per 1 U.S. dollar) earmarked for the financing of all socio-political organizations in the Republic of Serbia, the Socialist Party of Serbia alone has taken 15 million.

Renewal Movement in Bosnia Calls for Vote Boycott

AU3110202790 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 26 Oct 90 p 3

[Unattributed report: "The Serbian Renewal Party of Bosnia-Hercegovina Boycotts Elections"]

[Text] Sipovo—If the election were held on 18 November, the Serbian Renewal Movement of Bosnia-Hercegovina would demand on the same day that the Serian National Council of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the Serbian National Council of Croatia issue a declaration on "the cultural, political, and territorial accession to Serbia of all Serbian regions in Bosnia-Hercegovina and Croatia."

This is stated in a communique which the Sipovo-based Serbian Renewal Movement of Bosnia-Hercegovina today handed out to journalists, as well as people in the streets. "We demand that the election law be amended and the elections be postponed until 18 December so that unforeseeable consequences and disturbance of peace in the country be avoided," the statement points out.

All Serbs and all parties which hold the identical views with the Serbian National Renewal are invited to boycott the upcoming elections which are said to be undemocratic.

The Serbs which do enter the elections, however, are called in statement traitors to their people.

Tudjman Reiterates Commitment to Confederation

AU3110153590 Zagreb VECERNJI LIST in Serbo-Croatian 27 Oct 90 p 5

[HINA, Croatian News Agency, report on interview with Croatian President Franjo Tudjman by unspecified GLAS ISTRE reporter; place and date not given: "A Historic Agreement Is Possible"]

[Excerpts] Rijeka—In an interview in today's issue of a new newspaper, GLAS ISTRE, Franjo Tudjman, president of the Republic of Croatia, spoke about events in the country and the republic on several occasions. He especially broached the political and economic situation in Istria and the Primorje, that is, the coastal region which this paper covers. [passage omitted]

Speaking about the chances of a confederation being created on the principles proposed by Croatia and Slovenia, President Tudjman said that Croatia will not abandon the confederal concept, despite the unsuccessful maneuvers by Mr. Jovic in the SFRY Assembly, because ultimately decisions cannot be made without the consent of all the republics. He also said: "The confederal model of Slovenia and Croatian is flexible in terms of offered alternatives and possibilities to agree on various appendices to the main accord. This is why we believe that this is the framework within which a new historic agreement is possible. If however some republics refuse such negotiations, Croatia will form a confederation with those who want to do it, or will consider some other solution, depending on the situation. Nevertheless, we still believe that after democratic elections in all republics negotiations on mutual relations will be made possible among all sovereign republics." [passage omitted]

Croat Assembly Deputy Quits; Cites Heavy Demands

LD3110174190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1403 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—Stevo Kalember, the Titova Korencia deputy of the Croat League of Communists - Party of Democratic Change in the Chamber of Municipalities of the Croat Assembly, resigned from the chamber today. In a letter to the deputies Stevo Kalember explains that his resignation has been prompted by the fact that politicized events and demands placed upon him by citizens surpass his ability to represent everyone's interests.

"Despite my political convictions I cannot sympathize with calls for a civil and fratricidal war, with insistence

to resolve problems with the use of force, and with insanity, from whichever quarter it comes," Kalember says in his letter of resignation.

As far as it is known this is the first resignation of one of the Assembly deputies elected during the last multiparty elections in Croatia last spring.

Suvar Leaves Croatian League of Communists

LD3110140290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1323 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Zagreb, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—Stipe Suvar, former president of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee Presidium and the recently replaced vice president of the SFRY Presidency, has decided to leave the SKH-SDP [League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Changes].

In the letter sent to the SKH-SDP Central Committee, published in the latest issue of the Zagreb weekly NOVI FORUM, an independent magazine of democratic left-wing forces, Stipe Suvar explains his decision in terms of his disappointment with party policy, his claim that the SKH-SDP has lost its nature of a left-wing force, its orientational ineptness, political inconsistency, and its intellectual inferiority. [passage omitted]

Croatian Authorites' Pay Increase Criticized

AU3010162990 Split SLOBODNA DALMACIJA in Serbo-Croatian 20 Oct 90 p 64

[Drago Buvac commentary: "Earnings Without Limit"]

[Excerpts] The new Croatian authorities—if they may be called new—have demonstrated more skill in politics than in economics. I will illustrate this thesis with the example of personal incomes which, according to the government's policy, can from now on set by the market, and thus be "without any limits."

By the way, in the economy things are somewhat different than in politics. Of course, in these parts of the Balkans characterized by rising national passions it is easier to organize a spectacle in honor of a former governor on the Jelacic Square than ensure to the people "salaries without a limit." [passage omitted]

It does not personally bother me at all whether the president of the Republic and his advisers receive 5,000 or 15,000 Deutsche mark per month. An efficient administration must be adequately rewarded. But our Croatian administration is forgetting one thing. U.S. President Bush is also well paid, and, if I am not wrong, earns something in excess of $250,000 a year, while his closest associates earn less than that, but still anything upwards of $100,000. However, the most successful U.S. managers earn several million dollars a year. This is a system which offers high salaries to the administration and a chance for either even greater rewards, or failure, to those who are exposed to market risks. This does not exist in Croatia and in a way we are turning into a bureaucratic, hierarchical state. This will soon be obvious when the salaries of the "state structure" are compared with those of businessmen and workers. And this is bad primarily because it reinstates "the spirit" of a bureaucratic rather than a market and entrepreneurial economy.

The Croatian authorities are aware of this problem of "earnings with a limit." For this reason they tried to throw the ball over into the market's court but they did not succeed in it.

The only thing that they have managed to do was to throw the ball of Croatian salaries over into Yugoslavia's field. They wanted to point out that the Croats are paid less than the others and therefore allowed salaries to be set freely. This thesis was perhaps valid during the election campaign. At that time Croatian salaries were in fourth place. This fact was also exploited by Savka Dabcevic-Kucar in the framework of her consensus economy logic. What contributed to this was the fact that Milosevic's Serbia arbitrarily breached the framework of Markovic's anti-inflationary program (it is another matter that Markovic should have immediately responded by devaluing the dinar). The same logic was then used by Tudjman's Croatia. Tudjman has now increased the salaries of his "national bureaucracy," just as Milosevic did in the past. Croatia is once again in second place on the list of the highest paid employees in Yugoslavia. However, this game cannot be played any longer without leading us all into new brush with hyper-inflation. [passage omitted]

Albanian Arrested for Selling Albanian Weekly

AU0111102390 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Oct 90 p 12

["D.V."-signed report: "Sentenced Because of SUN"]

[Text] Titograd—The Democratic Forum of Albanians from Ulcinj and the Democratic Forum of Albanians from Titograd today sent a protest note to the authorities in Ulcinj and the republic regarding the arrest and sentencing of Cazim Govaci from the village of Vladimir near Ulcinj. We protest most energetically—states the note which was also sent to BORBA— the unlawful arrest and sentencing of Mr. Govaci. According to the protest note, Govaci was arrested and sentenced because he was selling and distributing an Albanian language weekly, SUN, published in Zagreb, as well as Fahrudin Radoncic's book "Demaqi," published by Zagreb DANAS.

The signatories of the protest note found this act impudent, illegal, repressive, and provocative, and thus aimed at silencing and deterring Albanians in Montenegro during the election campaign.

Macedonia's Belicanec Views Federation's Future

LD3110174490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1419 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—Both concepts of the system in Yugoslavia—the federal and the confederal one—are unacceptable to Macedonia, and no soundings will be taken in this republic on either of them. This was stated by Tito Belicanec, vice president of the [Macedonian] republican Executive Council, during his press conference today.

The people of Macedonia believe that perceptions of the new system in Yugoslavia have to be formulated in each republic and a joint platform subsequently sought in the light of these perceptions. Following a public discussion, a document with these Macedonian perceptions, said Belicanec, is about to be approved in the republican Assembly within a few days time. As stressed in this document, "solutions regarding our life together in Yugoslavia and of its state system which ensure and guarantee sovereignty and integrity of the Macedonian state and equality and agreed establishment of joint interests with other sovereign republics" are acceptable to Macedonia.

Belicanec also passed on the findings of a special commission of the Macedonian Assembly whereby the issue of the ownership of the Prohor Pcinjski monastery is deemed to be "open."

Criticizes Yugoslav Diplomacy

LD3110190490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1644 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—Tito Belicanec, vice premier of the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on Wednesday criticized Yugoslav diplomacy over the long-standing "status quo" policy towards the Macedonian minorities in the neighboring countries, linking improved position of Macedonians in those countries with the overall improvement of relations between those countries and Yugoslavia.

At a press conference, Belicanec described the result of such a policy as resettlement, ghettoization and genocide of a large portion of Macedonians in the neighboring countries in which Macedonians live.

An example of such policy of Yugoslav diplomacy, Belicanec said, was the recent meeting of foreign ministers of the Balkan countries in Tirana at which, as he noted, the question of Macedonian national minorities would not at all have been put forth had the Macedonian government not protested and energetically demanded it.

Markovic Tours Macedonian Towns; Promotes SRSJ

LD3110192690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1657 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Bitala, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—Leader of the Yugoslav Party—Alliance of Reformist Forces (ARF) [SRSJ]—Federal Prime Minister Ante Markovic is on Wednesday on a brief tour of a number of Macedonian towns with a view to promoting his party.

At Krusevo, Markovic said the ARF was not "Packed" with emotion, but spoke about money and improved living, and that was what people expect from the authorities.

We are building a new world, a new market, with all the rights and freedoms for citizens, Markovic said in Prilep, and added that the ARF will not allow the reformist trends in Yugoslavia to be checked and inflation to begin soaring again.

He assessed that the ARF was today the "Strongest political force in Yugoslavia."

Addresses Election Crowd in Ohrid

LD0111002290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2053 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Ohrid, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—In the course of the day I have toured a large part of Macedonia and have experienced the enormous confidence of the Macedonian people in our stabilization program, and in this context in the Alliance of Reformist Forces of Yugoslavia (SRSJ), Ante Markovic said in Ohrid this evening.

Speaking in his capacity as chairman of the initiative committee of the SRSJ, he stressed at a promotional preelection meeting in front of some 10,000 citizens that the program of reforms embraces millions of citizens in this country. We advocate a Yugoslavia in its present composition, but modern, parliamentary, and above all economically stable. We offer you Europe in the Balkans. We offer you Yugoslavia and a sovereign Macedonia within it, which will ensure all the preconditions not only to prevent the further emigration of Macedonians, but also for their return, to build together Macedonia and Yugoslavia, said Markovic.

During the speech of Ante Markovic and of the chairman of the initiative committee of the Alliance of Reformiist Forces for Macedonia, Stojan Andov, there were attempts at disruption, but the majority of those present supported the program presented.

Tetovo Rejects Several Parties' Registration

LD3110160790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1332 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Tetovo, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—The Secretariat for Internal Affairs in Tetovo informed journalists today that the republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs in

Skopje refused to register, in the register of social organizations and associations of citizens, the Albanian Cultural Community and the Community of Democratic Youth in Macedonia, both with head offices in Tetovo, and also turned down the Tetovo branch of the Party for Democratic Action, whose head office is in Sarajevo.

The Secretariat for Internal Affairs in Tetovo rejected their entry into the aforementioned register with the explanation that all three aforementioned political parties in Tetovo deviated from their own program orientation.

Hungarian-Language Daily Editor on Serb Attacks

AU3110183090 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 26 Oct 90 p 3

[Report on an interview with Zoltan Csorba, chief editor in charge of Vojvodina Hungarian-language daily MAGYAR SZO, by Karoly Koliger; place and date not given: "Voivodina Government Infringes Upon Constitution"]

[Text] The press crisis still prevails in Serbia's Northern province of Vojvodina. The government is conducting a merciless campaign against—among others—the Vojvodina publication MAGYAR SZO [HUNGARIAN WORD], the sole daily of Hungarians in Yugoslavia. On 24 October, the Belgrade daily BORBA confirmed for the second time the rumor of Zoltan Csorba's illegal dismissal, and this rumor was confirmed again in the 25 October edition of MAGYAR SZO.

We interviewed Zoltan Csorba on the situation of the newspaper and its chief editor.

[Csorba] The provincial government attacks against MAGYAR SZO and against my person have been worrying us for a long time. My colleagues and I are perfectly well aware of the fact that under the president's guidance, the provincial government is doing everything in its power to dismiss me. There are several reasons for this, the main one being that, from the beginning, we have disagreed with the transfer of the newspaper's founding rights from the provincial parliament to the provincial government; we have disagreed even more with the actions taken by the provincial government since the transfer of these rights. Our justified fears proved to be right, because a series of dismissals has been taking place throughout Vojvodina. The provincial president can do whatever he likes without any formalities, and he also makes use of this right in our case. I disagree with this procedure. The arbitrary Vojvodina Government tramples on the newly passed Constitution, it ignores the opinions of tax-paying citizens, competent organizations, and expert bodies, and it could not care less about the legally binding decisions taken by the Supreme Court of Vojvodina.

The Vojvodina Government has acted illegally for several reasons. It does not have the right to nominate or dismiss chief editors. Indeed, the founder of media communication means is the Vojvodina parliament, and on 3 July 1990, these founding rights were transferred by the community chambers to the provincial government through a special clause. The clause also stipulates that the aforementioned rights would only be valid for three months in the case of the provincial government. The deadline was superseded on 14 October 1990, and the government has not been given an extension by the chambers since then. In other words, the rights that were conferred to the executive committee are no longer valid at this point. Moreover, even if criticisms are leveled at the newspaper and its chief editor, saying that they "have not complied with the editorial policy"—this was brought up during the course of government attacks—the provincial executive committee still has absolutely no authority in this sphere, according to article 26 of the law referring to mass media communication means. Indeed, only the provincial parliament has the right to examine these questions; nobody else can exercise this right.

Assembly Delegates' Mandate May Be Prolonged

LD3110192490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1630 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav parliament was on Wednesday proposed that the mandate of delegates be prolonged after December 31 because new federal-level parliamentary elections cannot be held by that time.

Members of several parliamentary bodies in session on Wednesday assessed that "some solution" must be found and that federal authority must not be left without virtual power after December 31.

It was assessed in the parliament that the constitutional crisis in the country should be "weathered in a peaceful and democratic manner," and in this respect, a significant role is to be played by the federal parliament and the federal organs. They should be allowed to function normally until the crisis was resolved, it was noted in the parliament.

Also, the federal government was asked to "prevent violation of the Yugoslav Constitution and other legislation."

Presidency Views Upcoming Paris CSCE Meeting

LD0111001590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1522 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—At its session today, the SFRY Presidency, presided over by President Borisav Jovic, considered Yugoslavia's preparations for the summit meeting of heads of state and government of the CSCE member countries which is to be held in Paris bewtween 19 and 21 November.

The Paris summit is in line with the long-term orientation toward the building of a Europe, within the framework of the CSCE, which will overcome bloc and other divisions.

Through its role in the CSCE, and in the group of nonaligned and neutral countries and new forms of groupings such as the cooperation between the five countries of the so-called Pentagonal, our country has made an active contribution to preparations for the summit and the drafting of its documents.

In the work of the summit our country will involve itself to the full in examining the principles on which relations between all member states of the CSCE should rest: security and confidence, human rights and the rights of national minorities, the position of migrant workers, equal economic development and social justice, and the issue of the organizational framework of the CSCE.

Yugoslavia will endeavor, through its independent and joint initiatives, as before to make a concrete contribution to the development of common principled stands in each of these areas.

The SFRY delegation at the summit in Paris will be led by SFRY Presidency President Borisav Jovic, who will address this very important gathering of sovereign European states on behalf of Yugoslavia.

German Bundestag Group Arrives on 3-Day Visit

LD3110154690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1422 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Oct (TANJUG)—A delegation of the Foreign Policy Committee to the German Bundestag, headed by its chairman Hans Stercken, arrived on a three-day visit to Yugoslavia on Wednesday.

The German delegation will on Thursday begin talks with a delegation of the Yugoslav Assembly and the two sides are expected to exchange views on a number of topical issues.

The German delegation is expected to present firsthand information on the recent German unification, while their hosts will inform them about the process of democratization in Yugoslavia and the forthcoming multiparty elections. The two sides are also expected to discuss Yugoslavia's relation towards the European integration processes as well as its role in them, especially within the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), the Council of Europe and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The German delegation will be received by Yugoslav Presidency President Dr Borisav Jovic, Prime Minister Ante Markovic and Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar.